THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

AND

Edinburgh Literary Miscellany,

FOR AUGUST 1804:

With a VIEW *of the* OLD CATHEDRAL CHURCH *of* BRECHIN.

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State

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from July 26. to August 25. 1804, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1804,	Barom.	Thermom.		Rain.	Weather.
July		M.	N.	In. Pts.	
26	29.16	49	72	——	Clear
27	29.25	49	66	——	Ditto
28	29.5	53	68	0.05	Rain
29	29.61	52	69	0.02	Showers
30	29.83	52	75	——	Clear
31	30.	60	71	——	Ditto
August 1	30.16	51	75	——	Ditto
2	29.9	56	73	——	Ditto
3	29.81	54	56	0.715	Rain
4	29.6	54	59	0.05	Ditto
5	29.61	55	58	0.02	Showers
6	29.62	53	63	0.04	Ditto
7	29.69	52	62	——	Clear
8	29.41	53	66	0.16	Rain
9	29.52	52	63	0.52	Ditto
10	29.06	55	65	0.12	Ditto
11	29.53	53	65	0.02	Showers
12	29.39	51	63	0.751	Rain
13	29.25	52	63	0.351	Ditto
14	29.26	48	66	0.05	Ditto
15	29.29	50	69	0.15	Ditto
16	29.28	53	56	0.36	Ditto
17	29.53	50	61	0.02	Shower
18	29.63	51	61	0.03	Ditto
19	29.63	52	71	——	Clear
20	29.7	50	66	——	Dit
21	29.71	50	66	0.03	Showers
22	29.9	49	63	——	Clear
23	30.	51	63	——	Ditto
24	30.	49	63	——	Cloudy
25	30.	51	65	——	Cloudy

Quantity of Rain 3.457

High Water at Leith For SEPTEMBER 1804.

Days.	Morn. H. M.	Even. H. M.
Sa. 1.	— —	0 3
Su. 2.	0 28	0 54
M. 3.	1 17	1 41
T. 4.	2 3	2 25
W. 5.	2 47	3 9
Th. 6.	3 30	3 52
Fr. 7.	4 13	4 35
Sa. 8.	4 57	5 20
Su. 9.	5 43	6 6
M. 10.	6 31	6 55
T. 11.	7 20	7 45
W. 12.	8 11	8 36
Th. 13.	9 2	9 28
Fr. 14.	9 54	10 20
Sa. 15.	10 45	11 10
Su. 16.	11 34	11 59
M. 17.	— —	0 24
T. 18.	0 48	1 12
W. 19.	1 37	2 1
Th. 20.	2 26	2 52
Fr. 21.	3 17	3 45
Sa. 22.	4 12	4 41
Su. 23.	5 9	5 39
M. 24.	6 10	6 41
T. 25.	7 12	7 43
W. 26.	8 14	8 44
Th. 27.	9 13	9 41
Fr. 28.	10 8	10 34
Sa. 29.	10 59	11 22
Su. 30.	11 46	— —

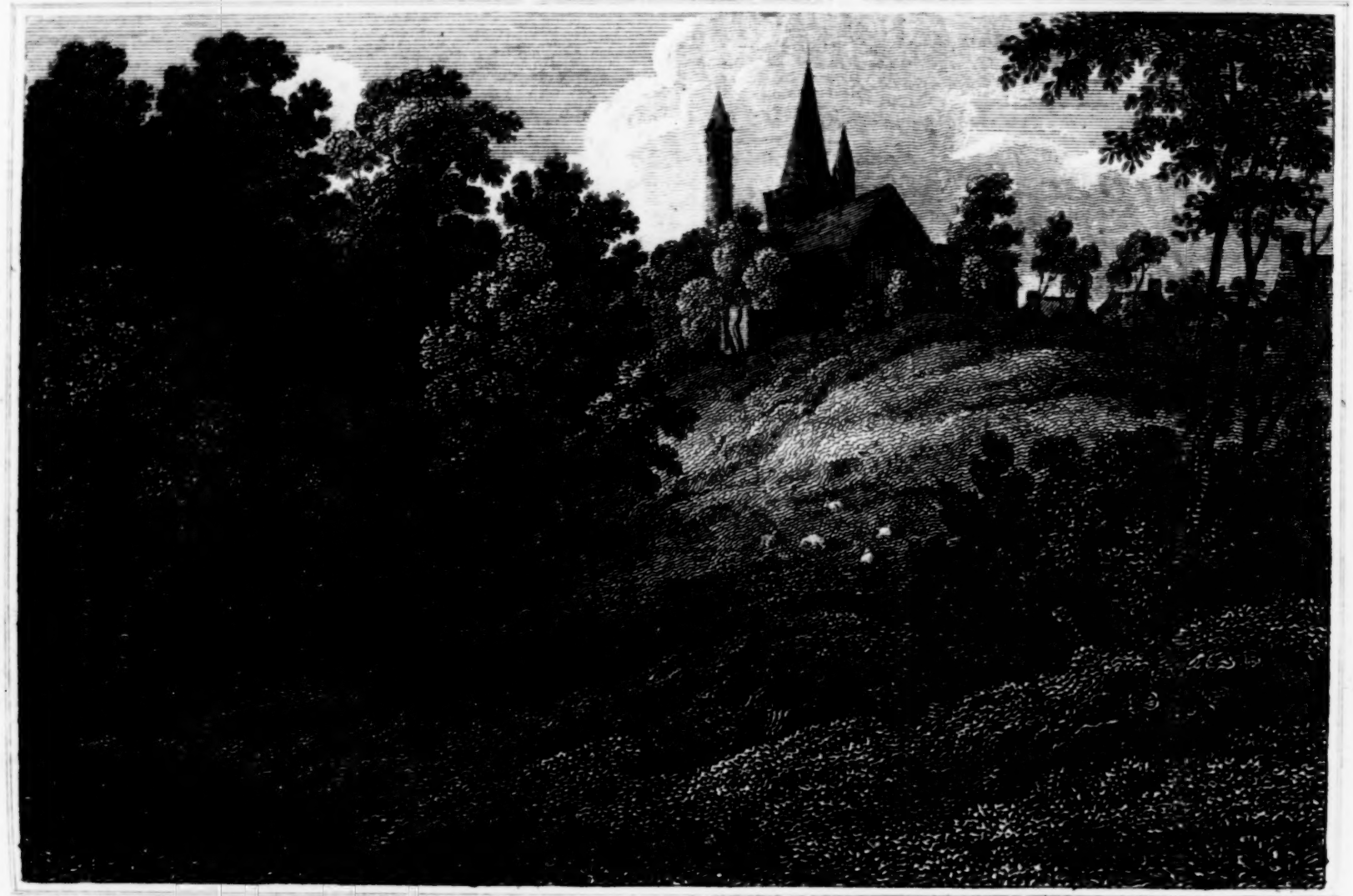
MOON's PHASES,
FOR SEPTEMBER 1804.
Apparent time at Edinburgh.

	D.	H.	M.	
N. Moon,	4.	3	24	Morn.
First Qrtr.	12.	3	42	Morn.
Full Moon,	19.	5	18	Even.
Last Qrtr.	26.	7	9	Morn.

OBSERVATIONS.

Sept. 2. London burnt 1666.
22. King George III. crowned (1761.)
24. Equal day and night.
29. Michaelmas.

THE



Drawn by R. Williams. Engd by R. Scott.

VIEW *of the* CATHEDRAL CHURCH & PICTISH TOWER *of* BRECHIN *from the* SO: EAST

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THE

Scots Magazine,

AND

EDINBURGH LITERARY MISCELLANY,

For AUGUST 1804.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

DESCRIPTION *of the* OLD CATHEDRAL CHURCH *of* BRECHIN, *with a* VIEW.

THIS view represents the fine old Cathedral Church of Brechin, with the celebrated Pictish Tower adjoining to it, as seen from the south-east.

The low ground, from whence the view is taken, is part of what formerly constituted the fosse, or ditch, which surrounded Brechin castle. The castle itself stands on an elevated situation within the tall trees on the left of the view. As we intend in a future number to present our readers with a capital view of the castle, we shall delay at present mentioning any further particulars of it, than merely noticing what comes more properly into this view, as it will not be seen in that of the castle, *viz.* That the spot from whence the castle was battered when it made the wonderful defence before it surrendered to Edward I. of England, in 1302, is situated a very little in front of the trees on the right hand side of the print. Here the ravine and ditch betwixt the castle and town become considerably narrower; and the inhabitants, to this day, point out where Edward's immense battering engines were placed.

With regard to the Church and Pictish Tower, these have been so very particularly described by different authors of eminence, that we have little left to add on the subject: the reader who wishes more minute information may be referred to Gordon's Itinerarium, Keith's account of Religious Houses, Pennant's Tour, the Encyclopædia Britannica, and statistical account of Scotland, *article* Brechin; we shall therefore only mention shortly, that the Church appears to have been built by David I. about the year 1150. The round Tower, or little Steeple, as it is called, is undoubtedly of much greater antiquity; what use this may have been intended for originally, we do not pretend to have discovered. Tradition has all along ascribed it to the Picts; and as the county of Forfar has invariably been considered the country of the Picts, and the only other building of this sort in Great Britain is at Abernethy, which is supposed to have been

been their capital, we may therefore conclude that the pretensions of these to be considered of Pictish origin, are at least stronger than any other we know of, if they be not absolutely Pictish.

One thing, however, we have to add, which has not hitherto been noticed by any author, and which we shall be most happy if it meets with any attention, as upon that will depend probably the existence of this very singular piece of antiquity. It had been found necessary, it would appear, in order to save trouble to the person employed to ring the bells, to knock an immense hole thro' the wall at the bottom of the round tower, so as to form a communication with the Church; by this means the bell-man is *saved the trouble of* going round the corner of the Church, in a rainy day perhaps, and entering at the proper door of the tower. Now, when the great heighth of the tower is considered, compared with its breadth, (being about 100 feet high by nearly nine feet wide in the inside) and further, that the top of the building is said to be upwards of *two feet off its plumb* at the base, and that it actually shakes or vibrates perceptibly, in violent winds, we apprehend that the above operation, however convenient for the bell-man, must have been attended with no small difficulty, and still more danger to the building. To remedy any evil that might arise from this great hole in the wall, the proper door of the tower, which is formed by a very strong narrow arch, has been built up, as if that could possibly add to the strength of the building.

We trust we shall therefore be excused for having noticed a circumstance which threatens destruction to so very venerable and singular a piece of antiquity, and as we have been informed that the Church is in a short time to undergo a thorough repair in the inside, upon an elegant plan, we trust that the best remedy of the evil we have pointed out will be adopted.

Inquiry *concerning the* Ettrick Shepherd.

To the Editor.

SIR,

THERE is a curiosity inherent in almost every man who reads the works of an author, to know something about the writer, which is increased in proportion as we are pleased with the productions of his genius.

It is from this principle that I am induced to trouble you with the following queries, relating to a correspondent of yours, with whose pieces I acknowledge myself pleased in the highest degree. It is he who hath for some years been writing in this, and the former Magazines, under the signature of *a Shepherd of Ettrick*, whose name it seems is James Hogg. Pardon me, Sir, but, in my opinion, this gentleman bids fair to rival, if not to excel, all that have yet written in the Scottish dialect. He is certainly a careless composer; his pieces not being equally maintained throughout; but there are some parts of his poetical pieces that have appeared in the Magazine, which, for native humour, and others for a true simple pathos, are quite inimitable. Now, Sir, you give us such and such ballads or poems *written by James Hogg*, as if the bare mention of his name were sufficient, not only to confirm the value of the pieces, but to make the author perfectly known; whereas,

whereas, notwithstanding every inquiry which I have been able to make amongst literary men, I can hear nothing of any such person. Now, dear Sir, would you, or any of your correspondents, through the channel of this Magazine, inform me if there is such a person alive; and if there is, what rank does he hold in life? as the appellation of shepherd must be merely affected: if he hath ever published any book, and if he hath, where is it to be had? I would *fain* wish also to know, who was the author of *the Man of Sorrow*, published in your Magazine for July?

In giving a solution to all or any of these, you will much oblige several of your readers, and in particular, Your most obedient

Banks of Nith, July 4. J. Welch.

[The Editor is entirely ignorant of any particulars respecting the habitation, rank in life, or character of the Shepherd of Ettrick; he believes, however, that he is actually *a Shepherd*. In order that some information may be conveyed to those who have been pleased with his poems, it is thought proper to print Mr Welch's letter, and the Editor will be obliged to any correspondent who will send any particulars respecting the Ettrick Shepherd. With regard to the piece entitled the *Man of Sorrow*, it was taken from the *Poetical Miscellany*, but the author's name was not mentioned there.]

Inquiries *relative to* Scotland *and* Scotch Affairs.

To the Editor.

SIR,

MANY of your readers, as well as myself, have most probably read the different communications which have appeared for these some months past, in the Monthly Magazine, respecting the papers in the Scots College in Paris.

As these accounts are not perfectly satisfactory, and as the subject must be particularly interesting to this part of the kingdom, I shall request, from some of your correspondents, a detail of such facts respecting these papers as are well authenticated. I remember to have seen it remarked, in a number of the Antijacobin Review, which was published during the late peace, while Mr Fox was in Paris, that the principal and most valuable of the papers, which had been in the Scots College, were then in London, in the possession of some gentleman (whose name I cannot at present remember) who had been in an official situation there before the revolution. The Reviewers stated, that this circumstance must have been known to Mr Fox; and hence they concluded, that his object in going to Paris was different from that which was given out, viz. his desire to collect or peruse MSS. in the Scots College for his history. The known antipathy of that review to Mr Fox renders it not improbable, that in order to attribute a less *innocent* motive to him for going to Paris, they may not have been very scrupulous in asserting, that his errand would be in vain, if he went in the expectation of finding materials for his history, and that he himself knew it would be so; otherwise it would certainly be worth while to ascertain, whether the papers were actually brought to London, or how many and which of them. I trust, that some of your correspondents will be induced to state, in a Scotch Magazine, what

so immediately concerns Scotland; and that your readers will learn, through your publication, what they now imperfectly are acquainted with through the Monthly Magazine.

I have likewise to request information on another subject, which, to our shame be it spoken, seems more attended to in England than here: I mean the plan and progress of the Caledonian canal: certainly, whatever effect my first request may produce, I do not ask too much from your correspondents, when I desire them to transmit to you particulars respecting a work so great and important as the Caledonian Canal. If your readers wish your Magazine to notice and to register every important circumstance relative to Scotland, they should step forward and communicate whatever worthy of insertion falls under their notice, or has been the subject of their investigation. It is impossible, that among your readers there should not be many who wish your Magazine to attend to Scotch antiquities, improvements, and events in particular; who would be dissatisfied if it did not do it, as it certainly ought; and who, though they themselves are able to supply the defect, and could do it with very little trouble, yet will not step forward, and at least set the example, and in some degree make the Magazine what they wish it to be, but what it never can be without their assistance. I have in this letter proposed two important subjects, and I shall be glad if I find that they have attracted the attention of your correspondents.

Aug. 29. 1804. X.

Account *of a* Tragedy *called the* Death *of* Socrates.

To the Editor.

SIR,

I Lately met with a tragedy, published about 1759, called the Death of Socrates, of which I have sent you the outlines, as I believe it is little known, and as it is certainly a singular production.

The characters are Socrates, Hermogenes, Aristodemus, a chorus of celestial spirits, the President, the Judges, Melitus, an officer belonging to government, Crito, Phædon, Cebes and the Jailor.

In the first scene of the first act Socrates and Hermogenes appear; Socrates explains to Hermogenes his opinions respecting moral and natural good. In the second act, Socrates communicates his sentiments to Aristodemus, of the capacity and the powers of man, divination, the presence of the Deity in all his works, and other similar topics. The chorus chaunts a hymn on the beauty of virtue, between the two scenes, and at the end of the act the chorus again appears.

In the second act Hermogenes informs Socrates that he is shortly to be tried. Socrates descants on death like a philosopher and resigns himself calmly to his fate. A guard enters and announces that the judges are assembled; Socrates, after having offered up a prayer to the Deity, follows the guard. Immediately on his leaving the stage, the chorus of celestial spirits enter and chaunt a short hymn.

The whole of the third act is taken up with the trial of Socrates: after which the chorus sing the praises and the power of virtue.

The fourth act introduces Socrates in the prison, discoursing with Cebes, Phædon, Crito, and his other friends, on the immortality of the soul. He declares

declares his belief in a kind of purgatory, where the soul, having been admitted into the presence of the Deity, purifies itself from those stains which it contracted during its union with the body. This act concludes with a chorus, which relates to moral economy.

In the fifth act Socrates is conversing with Crito, who advises him to escape out of the prison, as the door is open, and the jailor is favourable to him: but Socrates rejects the advice as incompatible with his honour and conscience. The guard enters and announces to Socrates, that the time is arrived for his drinking the poison. Socrates takes it with a chearful and composed countenance, after having prayed to the gods to render his journey prosperous. He then talks calmly on philosophical subjects with his friends, whom he consoles with the hope of seeing him again in the abodes of virtue, peace, and happiness; after which he expires.—The piece finishes with a chorus of celestial spirits, who chaunt a funeral hymn over the body of Socrates.

Your readers will perceive, from this outline, that this *Tragedy*, as it is called, is neither more nor less than the Phædon of Plato, put into blank verse, and divided into acts and scenes. It is, however, a curious morsel in its way, and appears to have attracted the notice, if it did not meet the applause, of Lord Littleton, who examined and corrected it——The Author's name was Amyas Bushe?—can any of your readers inform me who he was?

A.

August 18th 1804.

New PLAN *for ornamenting the* CITY *of* EDINBURGH.

To the Editor.

SIR,

THERE is no subject more interesting to the inhabitants of this metropolis, nor indeed to every person who takes an interest in the welfare of the country, than the public buildings and ornamental works which are carried on from time to time.

One of the most striking which our metropolis has to boast of, is assuredly our High Church with its fine spire, surmounted by its imperial crown; and it must afford real pleasure to every person of taste to observe the pains taken, not only to preserve, but to ornament it, in a manner different from what has occurred to the ignorant and inattentive people in the other parts of this island; I allude to the beautiful white or yellowish colour with which it lately has been painted all over, so as to produce an effect at once novel and elegant; for what can be more disgusting than to behold a gloomy looking steeple or tower, of a half mourning or dismal grey appearance, compared with the smart and brilliant appearance which it now has? To dispute this, would be to affirm, that an old rusty coin or piece of armour looks as well as a new one, or as one well furbished up, which is the same thing nearly with a new one.

Besides, every person knows, that nothing preserves wood, stone, or even metal, so much as paint; and of this the more coatings which are laid on, so much the better; and therefore, when I heard a foolish fellow argue the other day, that the palace of Holyroodhouse had been lately repaired in a more judicious manner than our High Church, by merely pointing and stopping up the holes with

with lime, rubbing the injured stones with sand-stone and water; and, where some of the highly ornamented work was decaying, touching it up with oil, (which, he said, had the effect of hardening the stone very much) I could scarcely contain my indignation, and told him flatly at once, that if I had had any thing to say in the matter, I would at once have painted the whole of some good shewy colour, as had been done with our steeple of St Giles, and also with the Tron Church, only that this last is not quite of so dashing a colour as the other; but some people will never be convinced, and so I found with this *ignoramus*.

I remember the first instance which struck me, many years ago, of the great propriety of painting ornamental stone work, occurred at St Andrews. Every person has heard of the magnificent tomb or monument of Archbishop Sharp, in the church there, with its fine *bas reliefs*, columns, &c. all of statuary marble; some mischievous boys had thrown some dirt upon the marble, and the magistrates at once ordered the whole to be painted white; and several parts, such as the wings of the angels, and capitals of the columns to be *gilded*, to the great improvement of the appearance of the whole. I am sorry to add, however, that an ignorant country gentleman afterwards happening to become provost, the first thing he did, was barbarously to order the whole paint to be scraped off, in which state it remains to this day.

From what I have said, I trust it is abundantly clear, that every publick building ought to be painted; especially if it be composed of polished stone, for then the effect is truly admirable. And therefore I trust the day is not far off, when we shall see our new College, the Register Office, Heriot's Hospital, and our other principal publick buildings, all painted of some good shewy colour, or colours; for I rather incline to think, that a good combination of colours would greatly improve the effect. For instance, as every person knows the *loyalty* of our good town, *at present*; would it not have a most patriotic, brilliant, and novel appearance, to paint (Heriot's Hospital for instance,) with the colours of the *Windsor uniform*, *viz.* mazarine blue with red facings; the body of the building blue of course, and the chimnies, belts, friezes, balconies and ballustrades, red; I trust I shall at least get some credit for this thought, from every magistrate of true taste and approved loyalty. And at any rate, since we in Scotland have set so laudable an example in this article of painting the outsides of our publick buildings, it is to be hoped that our English neighbours will instantly profit by our example, by ordering those dismal dirty looking buildings, York Minster and St Paul's to be painted without delay; as both these buildings do assuredly stand much more in need of such sort of repair than our church of St Giles; the one of them, York Cathedral, being so old and decayed that the people have been picking out some of the stones and setting others in their places, and rubbing and polishing the walls at every short distance; and the other, St Paul's, being so covered with smoke and dirt, that it is most disgusting to the sight, and never will look clean and neat, I am confident, until it be painted.

I am, Sir,

Yours, &c.

REMARKS

Remarks *on the* Character *of* Pindar's Odes.

Nullius addictus jurare in verba Magistri.

To the Editor.

SIR,

IT will be deemed by some a presumptive, and by others a fanciful and weak argument, against the utility of classical studies, that even in the present day, when the most firmly and generally established opinions in science are called in question, canvassed, and in many instances rejected, every judgement respecting the Greek and Latin classics, which has received the sanction of antiquity, should still be held in implicit belief and veneration.

It may be said, that if the study of the classics were really so important and useful, as is generally maintained, more freedom of inquiry would have been allowed and exercised respecting their merits; and it would no more have been accounted presumption or sacrilege to question their claims to that high perfection constantly attributed to them, than to start doubts and institute inquiries concerning the maxims of morals and the systems of science.

If a person doubts whether Homer be that great and unrivalled poet, which he is universally esteemed to be, he is laughed at or despised; he is branded with ignorance, or accused of want of taste, or the love of singularity. The grand, universal, and silencing argument is, that we are not now to learn any thing respecting what has been decided upwards of 2000 years; and that, tho' the opinion and the judgement of mankind may differ, and be frequently erroneous respecting science, yet, in matters of taste, what pleases all must have superior merit.

But it certainly does not follow, because the general opinion of mankind is just, where taste is concerned, that, therefore, they are just and impartial judges of the exact degree of excellence and merit to be attributed to a writer. Certainly, a person may, without any impeachment of his taste, his judgement, his learning, or his sincerity, be allowed to doubt, and to express and support his doubts, respecting that uncommon portion of excellence, which has generally been ascribed to the writers of Greece and Rome.

Besides, the argument drawn from almost universal opinion is not here properly applied. All the learned have agreed in their opinion respecting the classics; but they certainly were never accessible to the mass of mankind, except to those nations among whom they were written.

Dr Johnson acknowledges, in his criticism on Gray's Elegy, that, after all, what is generally capable of affording pleasure, and becomes a universal favourite, must be allowed to have answered the purposes, and to possess the requisites of poetry. But this observation cannot be applied to the poets of Greece and Rome. Those who have given up their time and talents to their study and explanation, consider themselves the sole judges of their merits; and if any of their own number have dared to start a doubt respecting the gods of their idolatry, he has been considered and treated as an apostate or unqualified judge.

Even some of the most zealous advocates for the superiority of ancient genius have been obliged to acknowledge, that the praises which former ages bestowed on it appear to have been in some measure unfounded. They endeavour to account for

for this in a very curious manner: in a manner which completely overturns the argument drawn from the general opinion of antiquity, and at the same time virtually proves, that the intrinsic and real merit of their favourites is not very great

This defence or excuse of ancient opinion they have been obliged particularly to have recourse to in the case of Pindar.

The honour in which Pindar was held, the great rewards which he received for his Odes, the religious respect which was paid even to the house where he had dwelt by Alexander and the Lacedemonians, are well known.

We shall not lay much stress on the judgment of Horace, however sound and impartial in Poetry; but shall quote, as a proof of the high esteem in which Pindar was held by the Romans, the character which Quintilian draws.

Novem Græcorum Lyricorum Pindarus princeps, spiritu, magnificentia, sententiis, figura: beatissimus rerum verborumque copia et velut quodam eloquentiæ flumine. Athenæus calls him by an epithet which is now constantly attached to his poetry: the sublimity of Pindar is almost proverbial.

It is however rather a singular circumstance, that, not many years after his death, his odes seem to have been totally neglected. Eupolis the Comic Poet, who lived about 50 years after Pindar, expressly mentions this circumstance, which, however, he attributes to the depraved taste of the Athenians: his words are very expressive and strong *.

The Athenians in the time of Eupolis can hardly be supposed to have degenerated in their taste so much, as to have condemned to oblivion the Odes of Pindar, if they had owed all their former praise to intrinsic excellence, and not partly to adventitious and temporary circumstances, which even in so short a time had ceased to operate.

Those who are impartial enough to confess that the Odes of Pindar, which have come down to us, do not deserve that high and peculiar praise given them by Horace and Quintilian, and are at the same time anxious to vindicate the judgment of posterity, have recourse to two explanations of this discordancy of opinion.

Some imagine, and indeed it can be proved, that many of Pindar's Odes are lost: and they very ingeniously suppose, that we have received only the inferior, and been deprived of all those on which ancient critics rested their judgment.

But it is very unlikely that only the best should have perished; and that in the 45 which remain there should not be many passages, characterized by that sublimity, which is said to be his peculiar excellence.

A Lyric writer, whose pieces are necessarily short and varied in their subjects, has more frequent opportunities and incitements for the display of his peculiar excellencies and the powers of his genius, than an Epic Poet. This observation will apply in a particular manner to Pindar, who is remarkable for the variety of subjects which he has introduced into each Ode, and which frequently appear unconnected, except very distantly and loosely with the main topic, and the result of a determination to give scope to his imagination and genius.

In the course of an epic, or didactic poem, many places may occur where there is no room for splendour, beauty, or sublimity. If we had been deprived of the principal part of Homer's writings, it is very probable that what remained might not have answered to the high character given

* Athenæus, Lib. 1. p. 3. & Casaub. in loc.

given of him by antiquity. Every part discovers the power of genius: but certainly many parts are inferior; and if these alone had remained, they would not have convinced us of the justice of the praise bestowed on him by the critics of antiquity. In a didactic poem, the chance is still much greater, that if the whole of it be not preserved, the character of the poet cannot justly be appreciated. Lucretius will be esteemed by all, who read his entire work, to discover marks of a sublime genius, and descriptive powers of no mean order: and yet the greater parts of his work might have been preserved, and no traces been found of that character, which those, who had perused the whole, had given of him.

Even a writer of odes, where they are sometimes familiar, playful, and amatory, and sometimes descriptive and sublime, is to a certain degree in the same predicament. The character of the odes of Horace is various; and if we possessed only some of them, we might be apt to question the judgment of those who attributed to him, at once, elegance and sublimity.

But the case is different with regard to Pindar: his presiding and distinguishing talent, according to the testimony of ancient critics, is sublimity: in order that he might range, without any controul to his genius, he introduces every subject which was capable of exciting or receiving this character. It can therefore be no objection to this argument, nor excuse for his failure, that his odes were confined in their nature and subject: that it was impossible for the most fertile and original imagination to decorate subjects, so naturally barren and closely allied, with a constant variety of elegance or sublimity.

Let us now consider the other mode of accounting for the high opinion which the ancients entertained of Pindar, and which we before asserted to be in itself destructive of that argument, by which the superior excellence of the classical authors is generally maintained.

"Toute l'antiquité Greque & Romaine a admiré Pindare, & l'on ne peut pas douter qu'il n'y ait quantité d'endroits grands & sublimes; mais il faut aussi avouer qu'il est difficile que nous en aiyons aujourd'hui une si haute idée, parce que le sujet, & le stile de ses poesies, qui nous restent, ne sauroient être de nôtre goût; à cause de la difference qu'il y a, entre nos coûtumes & celles de l'antiquité.—Comme le sujet n'étoit grand, que dans l'imagination des Grecs, gâtée par une vieille coûtume, il faut avouer aussi que le stile de Pindare est d'une enflure, que l'on ne sauroit approuver; qu'en oubliant ce qu'on est, & en se remplissant le cerveau, s'il faut ainsi dire, d'une imagination Greque *."

"Nous sommes si remplis des idées, des mœurs, des préjugés qui nous entourent, que nous avons une disposition très prompte à rejetter tout ce qui nous paraît s'en éloigner. J'avoue que la famille d'Hercule et de Thésée, les aventures de Cadmus et la guerre des géans, les jeux olympiques et l'expédition des Argonautes ne nous touchent pas d'aussi près que les Grecs, et que des odes qui ne contiennent gueres que des allusions à toutes ces fables, et qui roulent toutes sur le même sujet, ne sont pas très-piquantes pour nous. Mais il faut convenir aussi que l'histoire des Grecs devait intéresser les Grecs, que ces fables étaient en grande partie leur histoire, qu'elles fondaient leur religion, que les jeux olympiques, isthmiens, néméens, étant des actes religieux, des fêtes solemnelles en l'honneur des dieux de la Gréce, le poete

* Le Clerc. Biblioth. Chois. tom. vi. p. 262.

poete ne pouvait rien faire de plus agréable pour ces peuples, que de mêler ensemble les noms des dieux qui avaient fondé ces jeux, et ceux des athletes qui venaient d'y triompher. Il consacrait ainsi la louange des vainqueurs en la joignant à celle des immortels, et il s'emparait avidement de ces fables si propres à exciter l'enthousiasme lyrique et à déployer les richesses de la poésie. On ne peut nier en lisant Pindare, dans le grec, qu'il ne soit prodigue de cette espece de trésors, qui semblent naître en foule sous sa plume. Il n'y a point de diction plus audacieusement figurée. Il franchit toutes les idées intermédiaires, et ses phrases sont une suite de tableaux dont il faut souvent suppléer la liaison. Toutes les formules ordinaires qui joignent ensemble les parties d'un discours, ne se trouvent jamais dans ses chants; d'où l'on peut conclure que les Grecs qui avaient une si grande admiration pour ce poete, étaient bien éloignés d'exiger de lui cette marche méthodique que nous voulons trouver plus ou moins ressentie dans toute espece d'ouvrages, ce tissu plus ou moins caché qui ne doit jamais nous échapper, et que notre prétendu désordre lyrique n'a jamais rompu. Les Grecs beaucoup plus sensibles que nous à la poésie de style, parce que leur langue était élémentairement plus poétique, demandaient sur-tout au poete des sons et des images, et Pindare leur prodiguait l'un et l'autre *."

Let us now inquire how the foregoing observations agree with the argument, by which those who doubt of the high and unrivalled excellence of the classics are generally answered; and whether they be not a virtual acknowledgement, that their claim is partly exaggerated and unfounded.

If any one assert, that he cannot perceive, in the writers of Greece and Rome, those striking and unequalled excellencies which are generally attributed to them, he is told that their character has received the sanction of antiquity; that those critics, whose judgement and taste cannot be disputed, and who, besides, understood the language and allusions, better than any modern, have pronounced an opinion, which has been acceded to, and confirmed by all subsequent, qualified, and impartial judges.

But the very same circumstances, that of identity of country and language, on which the superior qualifications of the ancient critics for judging of their authors are founded, evidently would associate many circumstances, unconnected with real excellencies; and the praises bestowed, before they are allowed to be a just criterion of genius, should be carefully investigated, their causes traced, and those which genius commanded, carefully and entirely separated from the associations, habits, opinions, and prejudices of the reader.

If the high opinion which the Greeks entertained of the poetry of Pindar arose, as the authors just quoted assert, partly from adventitious circumstances, from feelings and associations, which would have led them to applaud any poet whose subjects were similar, it is certainly very unfair and improper to appeal to his countrymen as the best qualified and most impartial judges of his merit. Real poetry speaks to the feelings, and extorts the applause of all nations; the nice beauties and full energy of the language in which it is written, will best be understood by the countrymen of the poet: but if the subject of the poem be descriptive of national scenery, illustrative of national manners, or connected with national opinions and history, it would be difficult to separate that praise

* La Harpe Lycee, tom. ii. p. 339. 12mo.

praise and pleasure, which these circumstances would produce, from that which was excited by the merit of the Poem alone.

Shakespeare may be mentioned as an illustration sufficiently to the point: the English are certainly the best judges of his beauties, so far as they depend on the language and allusions; but it is impossible for an Englishman, especially when he reads one of Shakespeare's historical plays, to separate, in his mind, the real merit of the author from that which his own associations lend to him.

In answer to the French critics who despise Shakespeare, it would be proper to say, that they, from their ignorance of our language, and customs, and modes of speech, must be unable to enter fully into his meaning, and therefore must remain strangers in part to his excellencies; but certainly *he* would be deserting, rather than defending the cause of Shakespeare, who should ascribe the associations and habits of Englishmen as the principal cause of that praise they bestowed on him, and that pleasure they professed to receive from his plays.

Why should it be expected that posterity should join in the opinion of the ancients respecting their authors, if it be allowed by their modern advocates, that we are necessarily deprived of those sources, from which in a great measure their opinion flowed? If the praise bestowed on the Poetry of Pindar by his countrymen were justly due to its intrinsic merit, then their judgement may be appealed to: but if it partly arose from circumstances, unconnected with that merit, then their judgement is of little weight.

The mode in which the difference of opinion between the ancients and moderns respecting Pindar is accounted for, is most probably just: but it certainly includes this consequence, that the argument from the consent of ancient critics, is not nearly so conclusive and strong as is generally maintained, and that the real merit of many of the classical authors, is not implicitly to be measured according to their verdict.

We shall now proceed to examine the poetry of Pindar: in this examination we shall keep two objects in view: we shall endeavour to appreciate the degree, and to determine the kind of excellence, by which his poems are distinguished. Sublimity is the characteristic feature according to ancient and general opinion. In this he is said to surpass all writers; and if any other kind of poetic merit is to be found in Pindar, it seems, in the judgement of his critics, to have been so rare, or so trifling, as not to be worthy of notice or praise.

But whoever reads Pindar without any preconceived and borrowed opinions will be first and most frequently and forcibly struck with the moral reflections interspersed in his Odes. Most of these discover no profoundness of thought, and bear no originality of character: but tho' trite and obvious, the language in which they are expressed, is either so elegantly simple, as to charm, or so energetic and appropriate, as to give to the sentiment all the grace of novelty and the impressive power of conviction. If Pindar praise virtue, his language partakes of the dignity of his subject: and motives, which we have frequently heard with indifference, derive from him additional force, and produce at least momentary approbation. The uncertainty and shortness of human life, a worn out topic, fondly insisted upon by those who are barren of genius and invention, or whose gloom and superstition has over clouded their minds, are painted by Pindar in new colours; if the sentiments themselves are such as have been frequently expressed,

pressed, in him they give rise to reflections, worthy of that being, whose life is so short and uncertain, and whose capability of knowledge, usefulness, and happiness is so great.

Pindar has been accused of discovering in his conduct, and expressing in his odes, too great a love of money. This imputation has been successfully repelled by an author in the Exeter Essays*. Whoever carefully examines Pindar's writings, will find, that his morality, in this respect, was enlightened and practical. he betrays neither the speculative indifference of stoicism, nor the greedy anxiety of avarice: he seems sensible, that the greatest blessing of man is independence, and that *this* cannot be obtained without a share of wealth greater than Philosophy allows or aspires to, and a freedom from that poverty, which only ignorance and affectation would call no evil, since it brutifies man by constant labour, or enervates his mind by slavish adulation, fear, and dependance.

The condition and circumstances, most requisite for the happinesss of man, are described no where, perhaps, with more justness and conciseness, than by Pindar at the end of his fifth Olympic Ode. "If any one cherishes and increases that felicity, which conduces to health of mind and body, and is content with the wealth he possesses, and adds to these blessings, a good reputation: let him not wish to become a god †.

There are some of Pindar's reflections very similar to those, which are to be found in scripture; though few will be of the opinion of Clemens Alexandrinus, that Pindar borrowed them from that source. "That love which is stolen is sweet;" "For neither the fox nor the lion can change their natural disposition." Pindar's description of human life in the following lines has generally been admired as peculiarly happy and sublime, and is considered by Clem. Alexandrinus as borrowed from Solomon.

"Man is but for a day: this moment he exists, the next he is nothing: the dream of a shadow."

Many, however, will be of opinion that the last expression, "the dream of a shadow," totters on the brink of nonsense; and that the words of Solomon, "the shadow of a dream," have at least more the resemblance of meaning.

In description, Pindar is happy in the selection, and judicious in the combination of his images: he seizes on those which convey to the mind the most lively and striking representation of the objects described: and renders it perfectly easy for the reader to place before his mind's eye, every beauty, in all its splendour and order.

His description of the happiness of those who had passed through three earthly trials, and were rewarded with a dwelling in the Fortunate Islands, is beautiful.

But they who, in true virtue strong,
The third purgation can endure:
And keep their minds from fraudful wrong,
And guilt's contagion pure:

They

* Exet. Ess. p. 16.

† Mr. West has done justice neither to the meaning nor the morality of Pindar in his translation:

"And since the gods have given thee fame and wealth,
"Join'd with that prime of earthly blessings, health;
"Enjoy the blessings they to man assign:
"Nor fondly sigh for happiness divine.

They, through the starry paths of Jove,
To Saturn's blissful seat remove;
Where fragrant breezes, vernal airs,
Sweet children of the main,
Purge the blest island from corroding cares,
And fan the bosom of each verdant plain.
Whose fertile soil immortal fruitage bears;
Trees from whose flaming branches flow,
Arrayed in golden bloom, refulgent beams,
And flowers of golden hue, that blow
On the fresh borders of their parent streams.
These by the blest in solemn triumph worn
Their unpolluted hands and clustering locks adorn.——*West's Pindar.*

We shall conclude our extracts with part of the first Pythian Ode, which partakes more of the felicity of expression, joined to beauty of description and sublimity of thought, than perhaps any other passage in Pindar.

Hail, golden lyre! whose heaven-invented string
To Phœbus and the black-hair'd nine belongs:
Who in sweet chorus round their tuneful king,
Mix with thy sounding chords their sacred songs.

The dance, gay queen of pleasure, thee attends:
Thy jocund strains her listening feet inspire,
And each melodious tongue its voice suspends,
Till thou, great leader of the heavenly choir,
With wanton art preluding giv'st the sign—
Swells the full concert then with harmony divine.

Then, of their streaming light'nings all disarm'd,
The mouldering thunderbolts of Jove expire;
Then, by the musick of thy numbers charm'd,
The bird's fierce monarch drops his vengeful ire.
Perch'd on the sceptre of the Olympian king,
The thrilling darts of harmony he feels,
And indolently hangs his rapid wing,
While gentle sleep his closing eyelid seals,
And o'er his heaving limbs in loose array
To ev'ry balmy gale the ruffling feathers play.

Even Mars, stern god of violence and war,
Soothes with thy lulling strains his furious breast;
And, driving from his heart each bloody care,
His pointed lance consigns to peaceful rest.
Nor less enraptured each immortal mind
Owns the soft influence of enchanting song,
When, in melodious symphony combined,
Thy son, Latona, and the tuneful throng
Of muses, skilled in wisdom's deepest lore,
The pow'rs of verse and harmony explore.

But they on earth, or the devouring main,
Whom righteous Jove with detestation views,
With envious horror hear the heav'nly strain,
Exiled from praise, from virtue, and the muse.
Such is Typheus, impious foe of gods,
Whose hundred-headed form Cilicia's cave
Once fostered in her infamous abodes;
Till, daring with presumptuous arms to brave
The might of thundering Jove, subdued he fell,
Plunged in the horrid dungeons of profoundest hell.

Now, under sulph'rous Cuma's sea-bound coast,
And vast Sicilia, lies his shaggy breast:
By snowy Ætna, nurse of endless frost,
The pillar'd prop of Heaven, for ever pressed;
Forth from whose nitrous caverns issuing rise
Pure liquid fountains of tempestuous fire,
And veil in ruddy mists the noon-day skies,
While rapt in smoke the eddying flames aspire,
Or gleaming thro' the night with hideous roar
Far o'er the reddening main huge rocky fragments pour.

But he, Vulcanian monster, to the clouds,
The fiercest, hottest inundations throws;
While, with the burden of incumbent woods,
And Ætna's gloomy cliffs, o'erwhelmed he flows:
There on his flinty bed outstretched he lies,
Whose pointed rock his tossing carcase wounds;
There with dismay he strikes beholding eyes,
Or frights the distant ear with horrid sounds.
O save us from thy wrath, Sicilian Jove!
Thou, that here reign'st, ador'd in Ætna's sacred grove.

West.

In the foregoing passage, the beauties are so obvious, and so uncommon, that every reader must perceive and enjoy them. The sudden and abrupt transition from the powers and the pleasure of music, described in such language as only a poet could command, to the guilt and punishment of Typhon, and the aweful and destructive eruptions of Ætna, discover great range and fertility of imagination, and that characteristic of genius, the ability to grasp what is distant, to comprehend what is extensive, to unite what is dissimilar, and to give, to every thing it touches, the value and the brilliancy of gold.

There are many instances in Pindar of that felicity of expression, which seems to give language a force and meaning not its own, and to convey to the reader a portion of the author's genius. As the instances of this can be appreciated and relished only by those who are acquainted with the original language, we shall forbear to quote them.

On the whole, Pindar, though occasionally a sublime writer, is more frequently and characteristically remarkable, for his good sense, his moral reflections, and his knowledge of mankind. Some of our English poets, Collins, and Gray particularly, certainly present more undoubted and frequent specimens of sublimity; if, by that quality, be meant, that which

which exalts what is low, and amplifies what is confined; which raises the poet and the reader above this "visible diurnal sphere," and inspires them with thoughts, partaking of immortality.

THOUGHTS *suggested in a* TOUR *to* BEN-LOMOND.

To the Editor.

SIR,

IF you think the hints with which this sheet is filled will not disgrace a corner of your magazine, you may insert them. They were made from a passing glance of the scenes to which they refer, during the two first days of a short tour through the highlands. I only marked them down, to preserve the fugitive impressions which the most striking features of the scenery made on my mind at the time. If they are approved of, you may occasionally hear from,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. H.

WE left Glasgow at one o'clock, P. M. and passed through New-Kilpatrick, a village consisting of a few paltry cottages, surrounded by trees, and placed in the midst of a country highly luxuriant. Through this place run the remains of the old Roman wall, a lasting proof of the madness of ambition, and of Scotland's abject fortunes. Rome, once the mistress of the world, whose voice deposed kings, and bade nations rise into grandeur or sink into oblivion, is now no more. Justice, stern, yet salutary, temperance, contempt of wealth, and the love of their country, raised the Romans to universal empire—these virtues neglected, ambition, luxury, and selfishness hurled them prone into ruin. Let Britain profit by the example. A little farther on to the right, stand the house and policies of Mr G—f—d. Simplicity, the parent of elegance here presides. The house is quite open to the road, but defended from the storms of the north by thick clumps of trees. The pleasure grounds are various and extensive, and at once proclaim the wealth and taste of the owner.—Arrived about four o'clock at a small cottage, situated in the middle of a moor, where we met with homely but grateful fare. Refreshed by our repast, we resumed our journey. Crossed Finich bridge, consisting of only one arch, 70 feet high, below which a considerable body of water flows. Here the sun never penetrates, from the projection of the rocks and the branches of the trees intermingling with each other. A little from this place, we discover the monument of the immortal Buchanan. While it gratifies the curiosity of the stranger, it displays the gratitude of his country, and excites those glowing sensations ever felt by Scotchmen for the memory of those, whose genius has done honour to their nation. At six in the evening entered the hospitable mansion of Finich, belonging to Mrs S—th. The situation of this sequestered spot is peculiarly favourable to the cultivation of that happiness, which the world can neither give nor impair. Mrs S—th received us with a hearty welcome. The lapse of more than 90 years, though it has whitened her locks, has not impaired that intelligence, or diminished that politeness, which are prominent features in her character. Crossed the Enderick, over which there is a bridge of considerable elegance. Here the duke of Montrose has a seat. Arrived at Drymen, where we passed

sed the night. How swiftly does time glide, when the feelings of friendship, and the charms of nature conspire to urge his course, and when the sympathies of our own minds, excite kindred emotions in the minds of others! We resumed our journey about five in the morning. As we advanced, the scene became interesting. The wind wafted to us the most exquisite perfumes, while from every bough the birds, "poured tones of their own, and rapture swelled the note." The country here is but poorly cultivated. A few spots exhibit the marks of a careful industry, which relieves the eye from the tediousness of uniformity, by the lively tints of infant crops We soon discovered a scene, interesting to the most torpid feelings. Loch Lomond gradually opens to the view, laving the bottom of the Scotch Atlas—giving birth to numerous islands, some of which are richly cultivated, all of them extremely beautiful. The mist in murky clouds, floating from hill to hill, gives variety and grandeur to the whole. Arrived at Ruerdinnan, an inn built by the Duke of Montrose, at the foot of Ben-Lomond, for the accommodation of travellers. Got a comfortable breakfast, part of which consisted of excellent trout. We could not procure a guide for the hill, and our curiosity was too eager to brook delay. We began this herculean task, to ascend Ben-Lomond, with only a bottle of wine for our refreshment, and reached the summit of this huge rock in little more than three hours. Here a scene, the most grand and picturesque, burst upon the view. Imagination, however daring, may here fully stretch her wing; and language, however copious, exhaust all its stores. To the south-east, a landscape, the most various, extensive, and beautiful, stretches out as far as the eye can follow it. It comprehends all Loch-Lomond; a great variety of cultivated land; hills rugged and steep, down whose heathy sides rushes many an infant torrent, which, when swelled by winter storms, rage with exasperated violence, over straggling opposing rocks. In the west, south, and north west, a scene of majestic, though uniform grandeur, rises to view. Hills rise on hills, till their lofty summits pierce, and are lost in distant clouds. To the north, and north-west the mountains rise with equal sublimity. The blue mist wandering from hill to hill, here and there streaked with a transient sun-beam, forms a scene that defies poetic extravagance to embellish. The eye, tired with roaming on distant objects, seeks relief, by viewing those that are nearer, though not less grand Directly beneath, appears a valley covered with verdure, diversified with lakes, (one of which gives rise to the Forth) while the mountain presents an almost perpendicular descent, the approach to the brow of which intoxicates with giddy horror. Having beheld this profusion of wild and irregular grandeur, we sat down, filled with the various emotions it was so well calculated to excite, and which spontaneously suggested the following poem:

Old Scotia's wild majestic hills,
That rise sublimely on the view,
The seat of freedom, virtue's nurse,
My soul in transport turns to you.

Ye slaves, enjoy your vernal fields,
Where spring and summer revel still;
Your zephyrs mild, and sparkling gems,
With no fond wish my bosom fill.

Give me the rocks that wildly rise,
The storm that howls with fury dire,
While science mild, and freedom's joys,
To bless old Scotia do conspire.

From such stupenduous efforts of Divine Power, what veneration must fill every mind, not deadened by the cheerless notions of atheism. How consolatory to reflect, that the same hand which heaved such masses of matter from it, is stretched out to support

support and defend the virtuous. To a superficial eye, these hills seem an incumbrance on human comfort. When, however, we reflect, that they have raised a race of heroes who spurned the chains which the power of Rome forged for all the world besides, that their stinted produce has fostered all the virtues depending on temperance, and that they live immortal in Ossian's song, their heath and rugged appearance interest more than the most luxuriant scenes. After dinner we sailed up Loch-Lomond. The hills on each side are beautifully clad with trees of various foliage. Here a gentle cascade falls, there the smoke issues in spiral columns from the shepherd's huts; while the last rays of the sun, quivering among the trees, and gleaming on the water, present a scene that must forcibly strike the inhabitant of a town. The banks of Loch-Long, present a great variety of wild and romantic scenery. From this Loch we enter Glen-Crowe, a place where nature reigns in savage grandeur. Here nothing salutes the eye but the azure vault of heaven, and the Alpine summits of those hills which bound the prospect; their tops now enveloped in clouds of mist—now pouring down streams of water; while the eye is cheered by the playful sun-beam glancing upon the heathy coats or the scanty foliage of a few trees dancing to the gladdening ray. A few paltry cottages proclaim the sterility of the place. Even in these places, from which the gay, and the dissipated would turn with aversion, pleasure may dwell. Peace, love, and friendship, which often fly more fertile regions, may court the silence of these rocks, the shelter of these hovels

The bloated breath of calumny, and the blasting eye of envy, are here unknown: while an approving conscience, and the hope of heaven, may give to this unlovely spot Arcadian beauty.

Glasgow, 25th May 1804.

On the beneficial CONSEQUENCES *of apparent* EVILS.

To the Editor.

SIR,

THERE is not a more common error than that which prevails among the vulgar, that the phenomena of nature, such as thunderstorms, earthquakes, &c. are intended, by the great Ruler of the universe, as punishments on the inhabitants of the earth. They are indeed such, when considered in one light; but to a thinking mind, it will soon appear evident, that the divine goodness is wonderfully displayed even in these apparently awful phenomena.

Naturalists know well, that the thunderstorms which take place, do more service to the inhabitants of the earth, than whatever harm they may occasion. Thus it is well known, that were it not for these thunderstorms, the air would become so noxious, that it would be impossible for men to live on the face of the earth. Naturalists too, know well that there is much fire concealed in the bowels of the earth; and that it would soon take fire, were it not for these partial eruptions which this concealed fire makes by means of these earthquakes.

In like manner those storms at sea, which are so awful in themselves, and are sometimes productive of so much injury to man, were yet meant by the great Creator of the universe, for real good to him. Were it not for that awful commotion of the

waves of the sea, its waters would become so putrid, that the earth itself would soon become so, and thus men could not live on it.

From this, therefore, it appears evident, that the care of the supreme Being for this world and its inhabitants, is wonderfully displayed in all the operations of Providence.

This will farther appear when we consider the provision which nature has made for the sustenance of all the inhabitants of the universe; and that there always exists a proportion between population and the means of livelihood. To an unthinking mind it would appear unnecessary, that there should be such myriads of insects, who appear to have been created only to destroy the fruits of the earth; but even these are not without their use. Whatever harm they may do to man by destroying his labour, and counteracting his industry, they contribute to the subsistence of immense numbers of fowls, which the supreme Being has created to prevent these insects from being destructive. These fowls themselves too, appear to the vulgar to be destined for the punishment of man; but, as I have already hinted, they produce more good effects than ill; for although they do in part feed upon those fruits raised by the industry of man, who on that account frequently wishes to destroy them, yet they do him more service by destroying those insects, to exterminate which would baffle all his power.

Birds of prey too, as the eagle and the hawk, appear to the generality of men to serve no good end; but, upon consideration, it will appear, that even they are not without their use, as they render essential service to man by feeding upon such birds as are not carnivorous, and would therefore feed on the fruits of the earth, and thus frustrate the labour of man.

The generality of men too, frequently complain of the shortness of human life, and look back to the antediluvian world, the inhabitants of which lived in general more than nine hundred years. Those who have studied these things are of opinion, that the situation of the earth before the flood was far different from its present state; and that as it was then more fertile, and could on that account support a greater number of inhabitants, the supreme Being, whose goodness extends over all his works, permitted men to live thus long, because there were sufficient means afforded by nature for their subsistence and happiness. It would likewise appear, that, at the time of the flood, the number of inhabitants were in danger of exceeding the means of their subsistence, and that the flood was therefore an act of mercy in one respect, although it was originally meant as a punishment to men.

The situation of the earth then, as it at present exists, will not suffer men to attain to extreme old age; and indeed such old age would be the greatest punishment that could be inflicted on them, because their constitution is not now such as it was before the flood; and accordingly, those who have right views of things, will not seek for a longer life than that which they at present enjoy.

Here it may likewise be observed, that the supreme Being, in permitting the plague to make such ravages among men, exercises a care for their happiness; for, as it generally prevails in countries which are very populous, the inhabitants increase so rapidly that there would not be sufficient sustenance for them. The excess of population however, is prevented from taking place by means of the plague, which, to thinking minds, will, on that account, afford a further display of the divine goodness.

When

When we view then the operations of providence, let us beware of judging harshly, because those dispensations which appear to be destructive, are often blessings in disguise.

F.

Errors *in* Dr Thomson's Chemistry.

To the Editor.

SIR,

I RECEIVED much pleasure from a perusal of the review of Dr Thomson's System of Chemistry, in the Critical Journal, No. VII. The remarks in general are as candid and interesting as they are minute; they discover an intimate acquaintance with the subject, and if properly attended to by the author, may make a subsequent edition of his work much more valuable. His reputation as a chemist is very great, and I am disposed to think that his abilities are by no means exaggerated, which makes errors from such a quarter infinitely more dangerous. A number of those are ingeniously detected, and altered in the journal; but I have discovered, I had almost said, thousands more, which the reviewers have omitted, and which candour itself can scarcely consider as purely typographical. At present I shall point out only two, and leave you, Sir, to judge to what they are to be ascribed.

In speaking of the velocity of light, Dr Thomson observes, on the authority of Roemer, a Danish philosopher, that light moves across half of the earth's orbit in 8 minutes *. I should have expected to hear him say, that light moves from the sun to our earth in about 8 minutes, which is only the semidiameter, or $\frac{1}{2}$ of her orbit. If this semidiameter measures 95,000,000 miles, according to Newton, Hutton, and others, it must follow that light travels at the inconceivable rate of 197,916$\frac{2}{3}$ miles in a second, which is 2083$\frac{1}{3}$ miles less than Dr Thomson makes it.

It is well known to chemists, that many interesting processes require degrees of temperature, which it is physically impossible can be indicated by Fahrenheit's thermometer. This so forcibly struck the ingenious Mr Wedgewood, that in examining the singular property of a particular species of clay, of contracting by means of heat, he conceived the principles on which he constructed his celebrated pyrometer. As it would be a disgrace to any chemist not to understand this instrument, I was astonished to find that Dr Thomson either does not understand it, which proclaims his ignorance, or will not do so, which indicates something worse. He fixes the fusing point of silver at 1000° of Fahrenheit, and no less than affirms that Bergman says so. At present I have not Bergman to consult, but Mr Kirwan quotes him on this very subject, to which volume and page Dr Thomson refers. Mr Kirwan mentions it as Bergman's opinion, that silver melts at 28° of Wedgewood, but says not one syllable about the corresponding degrees of Fahrenheit. It is rather ungentlemanny in Dr Thomson to make so great a man as professor Bergman speak such consummate nonsense. A thousand degrees of Fahrenheit are not so much as indicated at all by the pyrometer of Wedgewood, for they are no less than 77° below his 0 or zero.

Gold, says Dr Thomson, melts at 32° of Wedgewood, or 1298° of Fahrenheit, as he makes the Dijon academicians say, or 1301°, as he obliges Mortimer to confess.

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1. The 1298° of the supposed Dijon academicians, instead of amounting to 32°, are little more than $1\frac{1}{4}^{0}$ Wedgewood, and Mortimer's 1301° of the same scale, make very near $1\frac{3}{4}^{0}$ Wedgewood.

2. It is probable that French chemists would make use of Reaumur's scale, to reduce the degrees of which to those of Fahrenheit, this is the formula. $R \times \frac{9}{4} + 32 = F$. It follows, therefore, that Mortimer's 1301°, if he used Reaumur's scale, amount to $2959\frac{1}{4}^{0}$ of Fahrenheit; yet even upon this supposition it is monstrously erroneous, for 32° Wedgewood are equal to 5237° Fahrenheit; an error of no more than $2277\frac{3}{4}^{0}$, which, perhaps with the Doctor, is deemed only a trifle!

Such absurd, ridiculous accounts of different temperatures, are every where to be met with in this system of chemistry; and as the Doctor never once hints that he deems them erroneous, they pass into the world for facts under the sanction of his authority, which, on various accounts, is entitled to respect. If I must *not* ascribe this to ignorance, if it would be uncandid to say that he wishes to mislead mankind, I know but of one apology which he has left to make for himself, or which others may make for him, and even that will not satisfy a discerning mind. It is this, Dr Thomson found the degrees of temperature precisely such in other authors as he has given them, and therefore it is no fault of his, be they ever so absurd. I am afraid that this is a veil to cover ignorance in many instances, although it should not be the case with respect to Dr Thomson. But will any man convince me, that the errors of others, (supposing them to be such) ought to receive the sanction of Dr Thomson's authority, in a work in which accuracy is an essential ingredient? In fact, I know of no science in which glaring errors are more inexcusable, and in which they may be attended with more serious consequences, than in that of chemistry.

For the information of such as may be unacquainted with this subject, I beg leave to observe, that 1077° of Fahrenheit constitute the zero of Wedgewood, and that 1° of his pyrometer corresponds to 130° of Fahrenheit; therefore, to convert the degrees of Wedgewood into those of Fahrenheit, this is the formula: $W \times 130 + 1077 = F$. Cast iron melts at 130° of Wedgewood, which, by the above formula will be found = 17977° of Fahrenheit.

I am, Sir,
Yours, &c.

Timothy Plaindealer.

Calton-hill,
Edin. 20th July, 1804.

Examination *of* Mr Hume's Essay *on* Miracles.

To the Editor.

SIR,

MR Hume having defined a miracle to be "a violation of the laws of nature," and as such contrary to uniform experience, argues thus: "as a uniform experience amounts to a proof, there is here a direct and full proof from the nature of the fact against any miracle;" nor can "the miracle be rendered credible, but by an opposite proof, which is superior." I deny that uniform experience is proof against the existence of any attested fact; first, because many facts have taken place, which, previously to their existence, were contradicted by uniform experience; and, secondly, because being then proved possible, a sufficient degree

degree of evidence may render it credible. But, continues Mr Hume, "the plain consequence is, that no testimony is sufficient to establish a miracle, &c. and even, in that case, there is a mutual destruction of argument, and the superior only gives us an assurance suitable to that degree of force which remains after deducting the inferior." But in estimating the comparative value of two contending probabilities, how is it possible to adhere to such arithmetical precision as is required in this statement of the case? surely it is sufficient for all purposes of just reasoning, if we receive or reject, according as experience is most in favour of one or the other. But experience is no more in favour of an interruption of physical than of moral order; for, philosophically speaking, they are one and the same thing. That human testimony, in certain cases, should deceive, may therefore be as miraculous, as that the dead should be restored to life. Our assent will likewise be guided by the proportional antecedent incredibility of the two miracles in question. Thus for instance, the materialist, being ignorant of all the various combinations in which powers of attraction and repulsion may possibly operate, and finding reason to believe that they do produce equally wonderful effects, will more easily imagine, that the means of revivification, by a union of the same, or similar particles, may be within the compass of these powers, than if he had no analogy of the kind. An expectation having been once raised by appearances in nature (like all other agreeable expectations) passes into belief, when confirmed by a sufficient degree of unexceptionable testimony, the truth of which, in similar cases, has been rendered credible by experience.

Again, an argument against a miracle in the natural world, as being a "violation of the laws of nature," is an argument derived from our ignorance of the secret operation of nature. All that we can affirm respecting the laws of nature, is no more than this, that certain phenomena have uniformly presented themselves to the observation of mankind. But that no deviation from this uniformity of experience ever has existed, or will exist, is beyond the reach even of Mr Hume's sagacity to determine. The same reasoning applies to a miracle in the moral world; because, although the uniform law of association be, that the previous circumstances remaining the same, a contrary volition cannot take place; the motive to falsify in any particular instance may, as will be supposed, be a deviation from the general law of association, as the suspension of lead in the air from that of gravity. But it may be of some consequence to observe, that the improbability of two miracles is increased or diminished in proportion to our knowledge in both cases. Of the nature of substances we know less than of the operations of our own mind; when, therefore, miracles in both cases are supposed, we must be less inclined to admit a miracle in the moral than in the material phenomena. The force of Mr Hume's argument against the existence of a miracle as being contrary to uniform experience, is considerably diminished, while falsehood in the attestation remains to be proved; for, till this be done, the miracle in question cannot be said to be contrary to uniform experience; so that to affirm that uniform experience is proof against the existence of an attested miracle is to beg the question. But Mr Hume was more desirous of perplexing than informing the world; and we must allow him to have so far succeeded in his expectations. I do not envy him the palm of sophistry, and I can sincerely pray with the poet,

"ille

"ille habeat secum servetque sepul-
"cro."

If we had admitted every thing that Mr Hume has advanced, it is easy to discover that we must have abandoned the cause of Christianity, which makes its appeal to miraculous facts, being itself founded upon a most signal event of the same nature. But now Mr Hume not only insinuates the falsehood of such a religion, by endeavouring to establish a fallacious hypothesis, but positively affirms, that "there never was a miraculous event, supported by testimony, the falsehood of which would have been itself miraculous. "First (says he) there is not to be found, in all history, any miracle attested by a sufficient number of men, &c." p. 131. I deny Mr Hume's assertion, and maintain, that the event of a resurrection from the dead is attended with all the circumstances of testimony which are requisite to give us a full assurance. The writings of the New Testament relate facts which are corroborated by the testimony of profane historians. That the primitive followers of Christ underwent various persecutions for their zeal in supporting the cause of this new religion, appealing to miracles for its foundation, is as certain as any other acknowledged fact in the annals of history.

With respect to the education and learning of these martyrs, it is enough to observe, that their "unquestioned good sense," may be fairly established. For, notwithstanding Mr Hume's philosophical observations on the human mind, and its tendency towards the belief of miraculous narrations, one may safely defy him to produce an instance in which a number of men have laid down their lives from a mere disposition to believe, without a strict and accurate examination of the truth of the attestation. It may be replied, that numbers of the present day believe Christianity upon trust, and would chearfully die in its defence. But there is a great difference in the case of the Primitive Christians. In our own times, we are taught from our very infancy to regard the Christian religion as something sacred and of divine original. By this means, when we are arrived at years of discretion, we have associated sentiments of veneration with the idea of Christianity, and are startled at the thought of calling it in question. With men educated in such a manner, it is not a religion which makes its appeals to attested facts, but to certain generated feelings, which it is almost impossible to destroy. Here then we might reasonably suppose, that persecution would be endured without inquiry. But in the infancy of the religion, when the facts attested were of recent date, and an appeal to them was constantly made, it is in the highest degree improbable, that men should willingly subject themselves to all manner of hardship without scrutinizing the validity of that testimony for which they sacrificed all their comfort in the present life. The love of the marvellous is not a satisfactory explanation of the conduct of the primitive believers; because we never observe this principle to operate in any such manner. A man will believe a hundred miraculous stories, who would not die for one of them. There must be something more than a mere tendency to be pleased with old women's tales, which shall induce a man to set aside, in a moment, the prejudices of education, to abandon the enjoyments of life, and to meet death in a formidable shape, with serenity and composure. There must be a serious conviction of the truth of that religion, for which so much is endured; and this, in the case of the primitive followers of Christ, could be no other than a firm belief in the veracity and respectability of those who attested

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the facts consequent upon a sufficiently rigorous examination.

Let us suppose miracles similar to those of Christianity, to be attested by a number of witnesses in the present times, the object of which should be to effect the abolition of orthodox establishments. Let us further suppose, a great opposition to be made by the ruling powers, to those who should dare to assert the existence of these miraculous events. Can any one believe, that numbers would encounter persecution and death from the love of the marvellous? If Mr Hume could for a moment imagine any thing so strange and unaccountable as this, he was possessed of a share of credulity infinitely exceeding that of any philosophical Christian. "With what greediness, (says the writer) are the miraculous accounts of travellers received!" &c. Why are they received with such eagerness? Mr Hume affords a reply to the question. "The passion of surprise and wonder arising from miracles, being an agreeable emotion, gives a sensible tendency towards the belief of those events from which it is derived." This solution is philosophically just. But if the ideas of ignominy, pain, and death, become associated with the belief of miracles, this agreeable emotion of surprise and wonder is absorbed in a number of painful emotions infinitely more powerful, and, by co-alescing with them, assumes a character directly the reverse of what it was before its union. The primitive Christians then could not believe for the sake of believing; because the agreeable emotion, which, according to Mr Hume, is the inducement to believe miraculous narrations, must have been stifled by other associations, and converted into a painful feeling. I can therefore attribute their faith to nothing else than a rational conviction of the truth of the attested facts. How easily might new religions be established in the world, if mere emotions of surprize and wonder were sufficient to make miracles in all cases credible!

That the Romans should be happy to die for their country is not to be wondered at, when we consider the amazing force of habit and education. The *amor patriæ* was a principle which, in the idea of a Roman, included every thing noble, generous, and exalted; and it was accounted extremely base, to prefer life to the exercise of courage, and the defence of religion and their country. Educated under the influence of such impressions, it would have been singular if a contrary effect had taken place. But no such ideas are attached to the belief of miracles, as to be sufficient to overcome the force of pain and death, and to induce men to suffer martyrdom in attestation of them. "If the spirit of religion join itself to the love of wonder, there is an end of common sense," &c. But is there any thing like enthusiasm in the doctrines of Christianity? Let any one read the 15th chap. of Paul to the Corinthians, which contains a summary of this religion, and let him "lay his hand upon his heart and declare," whether religious enthusiasm is exhibited in that sublime and masterly piece of composition. If faith in the benevolence of God be a characteristic of fanaticism, then is faith in Christianity a characteristic of the same. One may safely venture then to affirm, that the very nature of the religion in question proves that those who attested it were not enthusiasts.

Mr Hume denies that a miracle has been attested by a sufficient number of men "of such credit and reputation in the eyes of mankind, as to have a great deal to lose in case of their being detected in any falsehood." It is astonishing that Mr Hume could suppose that a number of men would die in attestation of what

what they knew to be false. Surely such a compound of incongruities in the same individual would be inexplicable, did we not know the inconsistency of human character. But the philosopher who laughs at the credulity of the vulgar, is frequently found to be as credulous himself.

Mr Hume next objects to the attested facts, as not being "performed in such a public manner, and in so celebrated a part of the world, as to render the detection unavoidable." Objections of this nature are more formidable and worthy of attention, than those which are founded upon some general principle, either itself fallacious, or not sufficiently comprehensive, though these latter require a considerable degree of acumen in appreciating their value, as applicable to a particular case. If there is any credit to be given to the writings of the New Testament, we must allow that numbers were converted to Christianity by the most incontestible evidence, that of ocular demonstration, which fact proves that the miracles were performed in a manner sufficiently public for all material purposes. When Peter addressed the Jews on the day of Pentecost, he asserted facts which must have been detected if they had been false; Jerusalem being said to be the scene of the principal transactions, and Peter appealing to the inhabitants, among others, for the truth of what he advanced, who could have given him the least attention if the facts had never existed. Judea was a province subject to the Roman empire, and therefore sufficiently celebrated for every purpose which Mr Hume requires. The facts attested were not performed in a remote corner of the world, and among a small number of people, who had no connection with other nations. The Jews had been engaged in wars with the Romans, and had been made tributary to them by Pompey. Julius Cæsar invested Antipater, the father of Herod the Great, with the government of Judea, which afterwards devolved upon Herod himself. These circumstances prove that Judea was a part of the world well known to a nation distinguished by its numerous conquests in different parts of the globe. The detection, therefore, of the facts, upon the supposition of their falsehood, was unavoidable. When Paul was preaching at Rome, and making an appeal to facts so notorious in a well known country, it is impossible to conceive that his testimony would not have been refuted, if he had undertaken to act the part of an impostor Had the grand fact of the resurrection been a mere fraud, it is incredible that it should not have been detected in Jerusalem, where it was asserted to have taken place; and Jerusalem was not so distant from Rome, that information respecting the fallacy could not have been conveyed thither. But enough has already been said, to shew that the unbeliever is infested with a strange "love of the marvellous, in imagining that the apostles were either enthusiasts or impostors." "It is nothing strange, (says Mr Hume) that men should lie in all ages." We are obliged to him for this wonderful piece of information, and in return for it, would communicate to him a less obvious, though equally important truth, that men cannot lie, when under the influence of particular motives.

Mr Hume amuses his readers with some well-attested miracles, but has unfortunately overlooked some material circumstances which are necessary to render them parallel to those of Christianity. Neither Vespasian himself, nor the two patients upon whom he exerted his miraculous powers, were required to undergo persecution and violent death in attestation of the facts. In the second miracle, the

canons

canons of the church, and the people of the town of Saragossa, had nothing to fear from asserting its truth, but, on the contrary, every thing to hope in persuading themselves and others to believe it. The sanctity of the canons was by this means more firmly established, and the credulous populace were too much awed by sentiments of veneration to think of denying the fact. Had these miracles been circumstanced in exactly the same manner as those of Christianity, it is more than probable, that all the parties would have been happy to have recanted.

Mr Hume seems to be of opinion, that the vanity of human nature is so excessive, as to make a man callous to suffering in hopes of gratifying it. "Who would not encounter many dangers and difficulties, in order to attain the sublime character of a missionary from heaven." I allow that we are so constituted by nature as to despise a variety of hardships in the contest of honour and ambition: but there must be a fair prospect of success, before we can be induced to sacrifice our most important interests to this idol of the imagination. Now Christ could have entertained no hope of lasting success, while he continued to oppose the prejudices of the ruling powers, and to instil principles so directly contrary to those which actuated the world at large, unless, indeed, we take for granted that he was uncommonly stupid and short-sighted. But upon the supposition that he has succeeded in the imposture, he must have been a man of no contemptible abilities.

Mr Hume speaks of the difficulty which a court of judicature frequently finds in investigating the truth of any, even a "recent action." But there is a wide difference in the attestation of a single fact, capable of being represented in various ways equally plausible, and of a series of miraculous effects, open to the inspection of any inhabitant of the place in which they were performed. "In the infancy of new religions, the wise and learned commonly esteem the matter too inconsiderable to deserve their attention." But this was not the case with the principal men among the Jews, who were highly interested in the event of the new religion. If they could have evinced the falshood of Christ's pretences, they unquestionably would have done so, since nothing would have been more practicable, if any imposture had prevailed. But the conduct of the Jewish rulers is a convincing proof of the truth of Christianity.

Mr Hume acknowledges, that miracles, unless of a religious description, may admit of proof from human testimony. But the attributes of God being inferred from natural appearances, a revelation is as probable as any other deviation from the general order of Providence. It may therefore be credited upon the same or an equal degree of testimony. With deference to Mr Hume's superior discernment, I think it necessary to remark, that the Pentateuch contains a history of events essentially different from any other to be found in a book written in similar circumstances. The idea of being preserved from the idolatry of surrounding nations by a series of miraculous interpositions, is what would scarcely have occurred to an ignorant and barbarous nation in its infantile state.

Upon the whole, then, the evidence in favour of Judaism and Christianity is abundantly sufficient for a rational inquirer; and I confess, that I should be conscious of a continued miracle in myself, subverting all the principles of my understanding, were I to refuse my assent to a history so circumstanced with respect to its credentials.

A Survey

A Survey *of the* British Empire *in* Europe *at the* Beginning *of the* 19*th* Century.

In a Series of Letters to a Youth. *(Continued from p. 493.)*

Letter IV.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

THE inhabitants of the empire next demand our attention. Various estimates have been formed of their number, some of which are undoubtedly too low, though more commonly they err on the other side. The following is at least formed on better data than most others; and I hope that, by means of it, we may obtain pretty nearly a just result:

	Inhabitants.
England is said to contain	8,872,980
Scotland - -	1,604,826
Ireland * - -	2,158,514
Total	12,636,320

This account of the population of Ireland was announced in 1776, by the public prints, as the result of the inquiries of government; and it is well known that the other two were formed under the same auspices so late as 1801. They are probably as accurate as any actual enumeration can be; but, from the nature of the thing, many omissions must have occurred, so that the population of each of the branches of the empire is probably greater than is here stated. Of Scotland I am particularly suspicious. It has, and I should suppose justly, been commonly reckoned to contain upwards of two millions. So that on the whole, if we likewise add the army and navy, the population of the British empire may be estimated at about fourteen millions, somewhat more than the half of whom are males.

In former ages the population of Great Britain, at least of England, was by no means so great as at present. In the year 1377, England and Wales is calculated to have contained only 2,353,203 inhabitants.

We have frequent instances of longevity among us, particularly of the labouring classes. Many die annually upwards of a hundred years of age, and some few individuals have even reached a century and a half. The number of deaths of all ages may, I suppose, be about three hundred and fifty thousand, and the number of births is probably somewhat greater.

Of our habitations, our cities, towns, and villages, it would be vain to attempt a particular description. To one who has seen them, it is needless; to one who has not, it would give but a very faint idea of them. Let it only be remarked in general, that you meet with every variety, from the miserable hut to the magnificent palace. In the highlands of Scotland, the cottages are built of round stones, cemented with layers of turf, and thatched with sods. The inside is divided by a wicker partition into two apartments, in the smaller of which lodge the cattle and poultry; while the other serves for the sitting and sleeping-room of the whole family. In the middle stands the fire, over which hangs the pot for cooking their victuals; and in the roof is a hole to let out the smoke, which, however, in the first place, generally fills the whole house, nor have they any light but what they receive through this aperture, and by the door. Such, my friend, is a highland cottage. In Wales, and many parts of Ireland, their houses are little better; but in general, throughout the country, as you must have frequently observed, our peasantry are well lodged; their houses

* The population of Ireland is certainly too low, it probably is about 4,000,000. *E.*

houses are neat, clean, and commodious. The houses of the wealthy, on the other hand, are laid out with all the convenience, beauty, and magnificence you can possibly imagine. To be convinced of this, you have only to visit a few of the mansions of our nobility; or, indeed, I may say of our private gentlemen. The house-rents in Great Britain have been calculated at 8,500,000l. sterling, which, at twenty years purchase, renders their value no less than 170,000,000l.

But though I do not attempt description, you will, perhaps, wish to know the names and size of the principal places; and therefore I present you with the following list of towns and cities, with the number of inhabitants which most of them contain:

	Inhabitants.
London	864,845
Portsmouth	32,166
Plymouth	43,194
Bath	32,200
Bristol	68,645
Birmingham	73,670
Norwich	36,854
Nottingham	28,861
Liverpool	77,653
Manchester	84,020
Sheffield	31,314
Leeds	53,162
Newcastle	36,963
Edinburgh	68,045
Leith	13,241
Dumfries	6,902
Lochmaben	7,000
Ayr	5,560
Kilmarnock	5,670
Paisley	19,903
Glasgow	64,743
Greenock	15,000
Stirling	5,000
Dunfermline	5,192
Kirkcaldy	6,356
Perth	19,500
Dundee	22,500
Arbroath	5,183
Montrose	5,194
Aberdeen	20,067
Dublin about	144,000
Drogheda upwards of	10,000
Belfast	
Galway about	12,000
Cork upwards of	70,000
Waterford	
Wexford	
Kilkenny about	20,000

Such, so far as I recollect, are the principal places in the empire. It would however be injustice to England, were I not also to state, that, besides the above, there are in it five places containing between 15 and 20,000 inhabitants, six whose population is from 10 to 15,000; and sixty which contain from 5 to 10,000 inhabitants. You will readily guess from the round numbers, that the population of the Irish towns is merely conjectural, and is not founded on an actual enumeration, and of course must be considered as very uncertain. The population of many of these towns and cities, as well as of other places, is rapidly on the increase; so that within these fifty years, some of them have doubled, or even tripled the number of their inhabitants.

From our cities let us now proceed into the country, and view the state of our husbandry.

Here the soil naturally first claims our attention. It, as you might expect, is very various in different parts of the country. On our hills, the soil is generally thin, while, by this very circumstance, it is deep in the neighbouring plains. In some places it is sandy; in others, loamy, in others clayish, and in others again stoney and rocky. The richest parts of England are the southern and midland counties; while in Wales and the north the soil is more frequently poor; and on the eastern coast it is often sandy and marshy. In Scotland you find the best soil in the more southerly counties, as Ayrshire, the Lothians, Fife, &c.; while in the

the Highlands it is very bad indeed, though even there you not unfrequently meet with vallies in no respect inferior to the richer fields of the south. Ireland is one extended rock, over which lies a sandy mould; a soil peculiarly adapted to the wetness of its climate.

The proportion of cultivated ground in the British Empire I do not certainly know; but perhaps you may form some idea of it from the following rude statement. In the county of Northumberland alone there are at least 400,000 acres lying waste; in Cumberland and Westmoreland there are many more; in the north, and part of the west Riding of Yorkshire, the contiguous parts of Lancashire, and the west of Durham, there are still greater tracts. You may indeed draw a line from the north point of Derbyshire to the extremity of Northumberland of 150 miles, which will consist entirely of waste lands, with only here and there a small cultivated spot. The east Riding of Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and Cambridgeshire, have large tracts; and Devon and Cornwall immense ones. To all this might be added a long catalogue of forests, heaths, downs, chaces, and other wastes, scattered throughout the country, and even within sight of the capital, forming, when combined, a very considerable proportion of the whole kingdom.

In Scotland, too, immense tracts lie waste, not only in the Highlands, but even in every county of the kingdom. By the report lately made to the Board of Agriculture, it appears that with us there are 12,151,471 acres in a state of cultivation, while 14,218,224 are lying waste; the remainder of the surface being occupied by lakes and rivers. Indeed many of the mountainous regions, particularly in the Highlands, will for ever defy the utmost efforts of human industry.

I said that I did not know the proportion of cultivated ground in Great Britain; but I have this moment discovered, that Dr Clarke states, on respectable authorities, the total number of acres in the island at 73,178,627, of which 51,178,628 are in a state of cultivation, while the remainder lie waste.

In Ireland the marshes are more numerous, and of greater extent than either in England or Scotland; that of Allen alone (which however is the largest) extending into the counties of Dublin, Carlow, Kildare, Kilkenny and Meath; and some years ago it covered no less than 300,000 acres; but I am unable to give you a more general view of this country. However, it must be remarked, that in almost every county of the empire great improvements are annually making, by clearing, draining, correcting, and enriching our fields. Not a season passes in which great additions are not made to the extent of our arable grounds. Since the revolution, about 2,837.000 acres of waste land have been brought into a state of cultivation; and of these no less than 2,804,000 in the course of the present reign.

I ought also to observe, that our waste lands are not entirely useless, as at present they afford pasture to innumerable flocks and herds, though no doubt they might be laid out to much greater advantage than they are.

You will next perhaps wish to know the value of land with us. At present, when a new lease is given, I believe it generally sets from one or two to seven or eight pounds an acre. Its value is however continually altering. Before England became a trading nation, the general price of land was twelve years purchase; at the beginning of the 17th century, about sixteen years purchase; about the middle of it, eighteen years purchase; at the commencement

mencement of the last century it had advanced to twenty years purchase; about the year 1730 to twenty five years purchase; and at present it is from 28 to 30 years purchase. In 1664 the whole landed rent of England was calculated at about eight millions sterling; in Queen Anne's reign at fourteen millions; and about twenty-five years ago, at twenty millions. At present it greatly exceeds that sum, and is at least twenty-seven millions sterling; and if to this we add six millions for Scotland, the whole landed rent of Great Britain, exclusive of houses, will amount to thirty-three millions sterling, which, at twenty-eight year's purchase, makes the total value of our land 924,000,000 sterling. though it must be remarked, that the landed rent of all Scotland was two or three years stated but at 2,406,099, which however seems to be by much too low.

Leases are common with us; yet still, though they are certainly no less advantageous to the landlord than to the tenant, many parts of England, the Highlands of Scotland, and other parts of the empire, labour under insurmountable obstacles to improvement from the want of them. Their length, when given, varies with different landholders, and in different parts of the country. Many of the old leases were by much too long, some being 50 or 60, and even, if I mistake not, the length of 90 years. At present I believe the general run is from 19 to 25 years, and to that is often added the life-time of the tenant.

The crops chiefly in use with us are wheat, barley, oats, peas, beans, rye, potatoes, turnips, and grass.

I wished to have given you some idea of the price of these at different periods; but I find it is out of my power except with respect to the first of them. The average price of the Winchester quarter of middling wheat from

1697	to	1701	was	42s.	8d.
1702	—	1707	—	25s.	11d.
1785	—	1789	—	42s.	11d.
1790	—	1794	—	45s.	11d.
1795	—	1799	—	62s.	9d.

You may however readily guess, that the other grains will have had a similar ratio at these different periods.

We are generally I think considered as raising corn sufficient for our own subsistence, but this seems to be a mistake; for the imports of Britain in all kinds of grain, from 1789 to 1799, exceeded the exports by nearly twelve millions of quarters, which of course must have been consumed among ourselves; so that on an average, our produce falls short of the consumpt by at least a million and a half quarters annually. The defect is found on all grains, but particularly on wheat and oats. A century ago, however, the produce of Britain in every kind of grain, except perhaps oats, seems to have been more than sufficient for supporting her own demands, as these exports, particularly in wheat, greatly exceeded the imports.

However, this defect will not appear great, if we take into view the vast and increased consumpt. So late as 1756, the consumpt of England, in all kinds of grain, was calculated (though upon what data I do not know) at 2,026,100 quarters; while in 1796, exclusive of seed, it was no less than 13,954,474 quarters; so that if we all along proceeded in this ratio, it is not in the least surprising, that a century ago the produce far exceeded the consumpt; it seems rather surprising that our progress in agriculture has kept such pace with our increased demands. But indeed a million and a half quarters is but a small proportion of the whole

whole consumpt, which is probably not less than twenty millions.

The flocks and herds which clothe our hills and pastures are likewise very numerous. No fewer than 800,000 sheep are fed in Dorsetshire alone; in Wilts the summer stock, including lambs, is half a million; and in the neighbouring county of Hants there are about 350,000. The number of sheep in Scotland is supposed to be about three millions; one half of which are raised in the Highlands; and the cattle in this part of the empire amounted, in 1801, to nearly a million, the great proportion of which was likewise in the north. The value of cattle in Great Britain, horses, asses, cows, sheep, &c. has been calculated at about 90,000,000l. sterling.

Our gardens and orchards are likewise numerous, and produce, in the greatest abundance and variety, the finest fruits, both for the kitchen and the table; though no doubt the more southerly climates have, in this respect, much the superiority of us. In the south of England, however, the vine and other delicate fruits flourish in the open sky. In several of the midland counties, particularly Hereford, apples and pears are cultivated in great abundance for making cider and perry; but on this subject it is unnecessary to be particular.

Wood also abounds with us. Every road, every inclosure, every gentleman's seat is adorned with trees; and of late years they have been greatly on the increase, at least in Scotland. In different counties there are even extensive forests. The most remarkable in England are Deane, Gloucestershire, which once covered 30,000 acres, and was the great support of the English navy; but at present it is much on the decay; the new forest in Hants, which extends twenty miles one way, and fifteen in another, and is at present the great nursery of oak for the British navy: and, lastly, Windsor Forest, which has been long famous for its rural beauties, and for the pleasures of the chace which it has afforded to a series of monarchs. It is stated upon authority, that in 1802 more than eleven millions of acorns were planted in the royal forests for increasing timber for the use of the navy. In the Highlands of Scotland we likewise meet with very extensive forests. In the parish of Inverary, Argyleshire, there is wood worth half a million, the thinning of which, to admit the growth of the others, produces no less than 1500l. annually. The fir woods of Glenmore and Strathspey in Invernesshire, are so extensive as to be supposed much more numerous than all the natural woods of Scotland put together. So late as 1793 one proprietor in the parish of Inverness planted no fewer than 15,000 forest trees, and 4,000,000 firs. In Ireland too, particularly in Wexford, Carlow, Queen's County, King's County, Ulster, Donegal, Tyrone, Fermanogh and Down, you meet with a great deal of wood.

The following statement given by Mr Middleton, in his view of the agriculture of Middlesex, will give you some idea of the proportion of ground laid out in England for these and similar purposes:

Wheat, - -	3,850,000
Barley and rye, -	1,050,000
Oats and beans, -	3,500,000
Clover, rye-grass, &c. one year ley, -	1,400,000
Roots, and cabbage cultivated by the plough,	1,400,000
Fallow, - -	2,800,000
Hop grounds, -	44,000
Nursery grounds -	10,000
Fruit and kitchen gardens cultivated by the spade,	50,000
Carry forward	14,104,000

Pleasure

Brought forward,	14,104,000
Pleasure grounds, the dressed and unprofitable parts only, -	20,000
Land depastured by cattle, - -	21,300,000
Hedge-rows, copses, and woods, - -	2,000,000
Ways, water, &c. -	1,603,000
Commons, and waste lands,	7,889,000
	46,916,000

This sketch, you will easily observe, is very rude; and, from the account I have already given, the quantity of cultivated grounds is doubtless overrated.

On the subject of agriculture I shall only further add at present, that the neat produce of all its departments in England is calculated at seventy-five millions Sterling, and that, according to the enumeration made in 1801, it employed 1,713,089 of the inhabitants. What the other two branches of the empire produce, I do not certainly know *. I remain, my dear James,

Yours, &c.

W. B.

Edinburgh, August 13, 1804.

Incommodiousness of Stage Coaches.

To the Editor.

SIR,

I ADDRESSED you a few months since, respecting the insufficiency of the springs, wheels, and harness, of the common stage coaches, and the imminent danger, and constant apprehension, to which passengers were exposed from these circumstances. I now proceed to notice, (what perhaps is less important, tho' equally common,) the incommodiousness of stage coaches, principally arising from the want of sufficient room. I lately had to travel 16 miles in a coach, which would not conveniently hold four people, though five, mostly bulky personages, were crowded into it; and the driver told us, it was intended to hold six. Parliament has thought proper to fix exactly the quantity of room which shall be allotted to each slave, in his passage from Africa to the West Indies; and, latterly, it has interfered to secure the wholesome and commodious passage of those who think proper to emigrate from this country. To be crowded in a stage coach is certainly not so dangerous, nor is the inconvenience of such long duration; but as a far greater number must be continually using this mode of conveyance, it would not be very unbecoming the dignity of parliament to interfere, and fix the quantity of room which each coach should contain, according to the number of passengers it is to take. When I pay for being conveyed from one place to another, I pay not merely for my being carried, but for my being carried safely and conveniently; and if the proprietor of the stage-coach fail in either of these respects, he ought no more to be entitled to his fare, than if he failed to carry me the distance bargained for. It would be an easy matter to oblige the proprietors of stage-coaches, to have them constantly strong, and commodious, (and if in *this country* they could be obliged to keep them *clean*, it would be very desirable.) In order to secure the passengers from being crowded, certain proportions of the size

* Encyclopedia Britannica, Gazetteer of Scotland, Aitcheson, Young, Monthly Magazine, Kincaid, Farmer's Magazine, Statistical Account of Scotland.

of the inside of the coach ought to be fixed, according to the number of passengers it was meant to take; and a ticket, mentioning the number, ought to be put in some conspicuous part of the outside; so that no more might be admitted than the prescribed number.

These regulations, or others similar to them, which would answer the proposed end, cannot be thought a matter of indifference, in a country where so many thousands are daily obliged to be cooped up and crammed, and exposed to the danger of having their necks or limbs broken, in crazy, small, and inconvenient vehicles.

Before I close, I cannot help noticing an imposition very common in Scotland. Here the coach-driver of most, if not all of the stage coaches, is changed every stage; and each passenger, of course, has his slumber broken, (if it be the night and he happen to be asleep,) and certainly a demand made on his pocket every three or four hours. In England, on the contrary, each driver proceeds 40 or 50 miles with the coach, and is content with as little as those that here go only a single stage.

A Traveller.

August 11. 1804.

On the Worming *of* Dogs.

To the Editor.

SIR,

THE great number of instances of dogs, which have been destroyed this summer, either because they were really mad, or because they were suspected to be so, and the infinitely more dreadful consequences, which result to mankind from the bite of mad dogs, should certainly lead the legislature, or the police, to adopt some other mode, than merely obliging the owners of dogs to keep them confined, and employing people to kill those which are afterwards found at liberty, to put a stop to the apprehension and the existence of hydrophobia. In reality, this mode increases the evil which it is meant to remedy; there are, probably, very few of your readers who have not witnessed boys, and men too, hooting, pursuing, and pelting, an innocent, and harmless dog, till they have actually made him mad. The worming of dogs, I apprehend, if properly and effectually performed, would prevent hydrophobia. It was recommended and followed in the time of Pliny; but, like many other good practices, it has been ridiculed and disused, because more effects were attributed to it than from observation and experience it was found to produce. It was said, and supposed, inevitably to prevent the dog from going mad; this idea got hold of the mind of the public to the exclusion of the other, which was the true one; viz. that a dog, if properly *wormed*, though it might go mad itself, could not bite any animal, and therefore could not communicate its madness. This is certainly an important effect of worming; since, tho' dogs may still become mad, the hydrophobia cannot possibly be produced. As many of your readers may be sceptical, I shall transcribe some facts, which are well attested, and which seem to me decisive, from "Rural Sports," by the Rev. W. B. Daniel.

"The prevention of the direful effects of canine madness seems to have been attempted in the early ages; to accomplish this, Pliny recommends the worming of dogs, and from his time to the present, it has most deservedly had its advocates.

Very

Very strong proofs have been adduced of its utility, nor is it natural to imaginne, so easy and effective an operation would have been omitted, had not more virtue been attributed to it than it really possesses, and wherein it failed, the absolute prevention of madness was said to be the consequence; whereas the fact was, and is, that taking out the worm has nothing to do with annihilating the disorder, although it will most certainly hinder the dog seized with it, from doing hurt to man or beast. A late author asserts he had three dogs that were wormed, bit by mad dogs at three several periods, yet notwithstanding they all died mad, they did not bite nor do any mischief; that being determined to make a full experiment, he shut one of the mad dogs up in a kennel, and put to him a dog he did not value; the mad dog often run at the other to bite him, but his tongue was so swelled that he could not make his teeth meet; the dog was kept in the kennel until the mad one died, and was purposely preserved for two years afterwards, to note the effect, but he never ailed any thing, although no remedies were applied to check any infection that might have been received from the contact of the mad dog.

"The compiler has had various opportunities of proving the usefulness of worming, and inserts three of the most striking instances, under the hope of inducing its general practice.

"A terrier bitch went mad that was kept in the kennel with forty couple of hounds, not a single hound was bitten, nor was she seen to offer to bite. The bitch being of a peculiar sort, every attention was paid to her, and the gradations of the disease (which were extremely rapid) minutely noted, the hydrophobia was fast approaching before she was separated from the hounds, and she died the second day after; at first, warm milk was placed before her, which she attempted to lap, but the throat refused its functions; from this period she never tried to eat or drink, seldom rose up, or even moved, the tongue swelled very much, and long before her death the jaws were distended by it.

"A spaniel was observed to be seized by a strange dog, and was bit in the lip, the servant who ran up to part them, narrowly escaped, as the dog flew twice at him; a few minutes after the dog had quitted the yard, the people who had pursued gave notice of the dog's madness, who had made terrible havock in a course of ten miles from whence he had set off. The spaniel was a great favourite, had medicine applied, and every precaution taken; upon the fourteenth day he appeared to loath his food, and his eyes looked unusually heavy, the day following he endeavoured to lap milk, but could swallow none; from that time the tongue began to swell, he moved himself but seldom, and on the third day he died; for many hours previous to his death, the tongue was so enlarged, that the fangs or canine teeth, could not meet each other by upwards of an inch.

"The hounds were some years after parted with, and were sold in lots; a madness broke out in the kennel of the gentleman who purchased many of them, and although several of these hounds were bitten and went mad, only one of them ever attempted to bite, and that was a hound from the Duke of Portland's, who, in the operation of worming, had the worm broke by his struggling, and was so troublesome that one half of it was suffered to remain; the others all died with symptoms similar to the terrier and the spaniel, viz. a violent swelling of the tongue, and a stupor rendering them nearly motionless, and both which symptoms seemed to increase with the disease.

"The

"The idea that worming prevents a dog from receiving the infection when bitten should be exploded; but the foregoing facts shew how far it may be recommended for the restriction of a malady horrid in its effects where a human being is concerned, and which, to the sportsman and the farmer, is attended with such dangerous and expensive consequences."

Celestial Phenomena *for* September 1804.

Tuesday, September 11th.

THE planet Jupiter will be in conjunction with λ *Virginis*, a star of the 4th magnitude, situated in the left foot of the Virgin, in longitude 7ˢ..4°..13′..43″, and latitude 30′..39″ North. The latitude of Jupiter being then 59′..24″ North, the distance of their centers at the time of conjunction will be 29′..45″, and the planet will pass to the North of the star.

On the same day, about 16 minutes after 3 o'clock in the morning, the Moon will be in conjunction with *Antares*, or α *Scorpionis*, a star of the first magnitude.

The planet Mercury will, on the same day, arrive at his greatest elongation from the sun. He may be seen in the evening after sun-set, and will descend below the horizon a few degrees to the North of the point where the sun sets.

Thursday, September 13th.

The planet Mars is at present situated in longitude 3ˢ..11°..26′..49″, and latitude 28 minutes North. His declination is 23°..26. He comes to the meridian about 20 minutes after 7 o'clock in the morning, and rises about 11 o'clock in the evening. He is situated near δ *Gemini*, with which he will be in conjunction on the 20th, and forms the vertex of a right-angled triangle with *Castor* and *Pollux*. Pollux being at the right angle.

Saturday, September 15th.

The planet Venus will be in conjunction with 2 *ad* α *Cancri*, a star of the 4th magnitude, situated in the Southern claw of the Crab, in longitude 4ˢ..10°..55′..2″. The latitude of Venus being 4°..10′..55″ South, and that of 2 *ad* α *Cancri* 5°..5′..58″ South, the nearest approach of their centers will be 55′..3″, and the planet will pass to the North of the star.

Tuesday, September 18th.

About 17 minutes after 6 o'clock in the evening the *second* and *third* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the Western side of his disc. The fourth is situated on the same side, at a greater distance, and the first on the other side of the planet.

Wednesday, September 19th.

The *first* and *second* Satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the right hand of his disc. The *third* and *fourth* are situated on the same side, in the same order as they lie in the system.

The planet Jupiter is situated in longitude 7ˢ..5°..44′..53″, and latitude 58′..5″ North. His declination is 12°..32′ South, and the time of his Southing 2ʰ..23′ in the afternoon.

Thursday, September 20th.

The planet Mars will be in conjunction with δ *Gemini*, a star of the 3d magnitude, situated in Castor's hand, in longitude 3ˢ..15°..47′..50,″ and latitude 12′..19″ South. The latitude of Mars being 36′..47″ North, the nearest distance of their centers will be 49′..6″, and Mars will pass to the North of the star.

On the same day the planet Mercury will be in conjunction with ι *Virginis*, a star of the 4th magnitude, situated a little above *Spica*, in longitude 6ˢ..22°..2′..54″. The latitude of ι *Virginis* being 3°..19′..56″ South, and that of Mercury 3°..34′..49″ South, the nearest approach of their centers will be 14′..53″.. and the

the planet will pass to the South of the star.

Friday, September 21st.

The GEORGIUM SIDUS is at present situated in 6^s..15°..55′..57″ of long. and 37′.. 3″ of North lat. His declination is 5°..43′ South, and the time of his culminating 1^h..3′ in the afternoon. It is placed between *θ* and *Spica*, or *α* Virginis, about 1°.. 10′ South-east of *θ*, and about 6°.. 10′ North-west of *Spica Virginis*.

Sunday, September 23d.

The sun will enter the sign *Libra* about 34 minutes after 6 o'clock in the morning, and his longitude will be exactly 6 signs. The day and night will then be equal over the whole world.

On the same day the planet Mercury will be stationary, in longitude 6^s..22°..31′..5″.

Monday, September 24th.

The *second* and *third* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the eastern side of his disc at 17 minutes after 6 o'clock in the evening. The fourth satellite is situated on the same side, at a greater distance, and the first on the other side of the planet. It is remarkable that the satellites of Jupiter should have the same relative situation at present on the eastern side of Jupiter, as they had on the western side of his disc on the 18th September.

Tuesday September 25th.

The planet Saturn is at present placed in 6^s.. 6°..7′..9″ of longitude, and 2°..11′. 8″ of North latitude. His declination is 26′ South, and the time of his Southing 12^h..14′ noon.

On the same day, about a quarter after 6 o'clock in the evening, the *second* and *third* satellites of JUPITER will be in conjunction on the western side of his disc. The first and fourth are placed on the other side, the first being nearest the planet.

Wednesday, September 26th.

The planet Venus will be in conjunction with *ξ Leonis*, a star of the 4th magnitude, situated in the left fore foot of the Lion, in longitude 4^s..18°..55′..45″, and latitude 3°..9′.. 57″ South. The latitude of Venus being 2° .39′..37″ South, the distance between their centers at the time of conjunction will be 30′..20″, and the planet will pass to the North of the star.

Thursday, September 27th.

The MOON will be in conjunction with the planet MARS, at 2 minutes after 12 o'clock noon.

Saturday, September 29th.

The *Moon* will be in conjunction with the planet VENUS, about 53 minutes after 8 o'clock in the evening.

Sunday, September 30th.

About 47 minutes after 1 o'clock in the morning, the planet SATURN will be in conjunction with the sun.

Murrayfield, August 17. 1804. *D. B.*

Memoirs of the Progress of MANUFACTURES, CHEMISTRY, SCIENCE, *and the* FINE ARTS.

A VERY important discovery respecting the expansibility of steam, when increased in temperature beyond the boiling point, has lately been made by Mr ARTHUR WOOLF. It has been ascertained for some time by Mr Watt, that steam, acting with the expansive force of four pounds per square inch, against a safety valve exposed to the atmosphere, is capable of expanding itself to four times the volume it then occupies, and is still equal to the pressure of the atmosphere. But Mr Woolf has satisfactorily shewn, that steam, whose expansive force is five pounds the square inch, or six, seven, eight, nine, or ten pounds per square inch, may be allowed

allowed to expand to five, six, seven, eight, nine, or ten times its volume, and still be equal to the pressure of the atmosphere. He found also, that this ratio is progressive, and nearly, if not quite uniform; so that steam, whose expansive force is 40, 50, 100, 200, or 300 pounds per square inch, upon a common safety valve, will expand itself to 40, 50, 100, 200, or 300 times its volume with the same effect, provided that the vessel in which it expands be of the same temperature as that of the steam before it was suffered to expand. Nor does the steam, when thus expanded, require high degrees of temperature for maintaining it. Mr Woolf found, by experiment, setting out from the boiling point of water, or 212° of Fahrenheit, at which temperature steam of water is only equal to the pressure of the atmosphere, that in order to give it an increased elastic force equal to five pounds, the temperature must be raised to about 227½, when it will have acquired power to expand itself to five times its volume. In order to increase the elastic force five pounds more, an increase of only 12° of temperature is necessary. In order to increase the elastic force to 20 pounds, the temperature must be 259½°. In order to increase it to 30 pounds, the temperature must be 273°; and in order to increase it to 40 pounds, the temperature must be 282°. In consequence of this discovery Mr Woolf has obtained a patent for various improvements in steam engines; for an account of which we must refer the reader to the specification of the patent, or to an extract from it in Nicholson's Journal, No. 32. p. 264. and Philosoph. Mag. No. 74. p. 135.

Successful experiments have lately been made in America, and the West Indies, to preserve and increase the insect known there by the name of *Ely Carrier*, or *Canada Worm*, which produces an animal cotton, in many respects superior to vegetable cotton. M. Baudry des Lozieres, in a memoir upon this subject, urges the Americans to preserve and increase this insect in a similar manner, and for the same purposes that the breed of the silk worm is encouraged. He asserts, that he has frequently seen so abundant a harvest of animal cotton, that in two hours he could collect one hundred pints French measure. That animal cotton is attended with none of the difficulties which occur in the preparation of vegetable cotton, and requires less time and trouble to procure it; and yet it will stand the competition with silk and with vegetable cotton; as these, when applied to wounds, serve only to inflame and envenom, while the animal cotton may be used as lint without the smallest inconvenience.

In the winter season there is frequently a scarcity of water, from the congelation of the water in the pipes; and the tubes themselves are often burst by the expansion which is occasioned by the freezing of the included water. To remedy these inconveniences, Mr Wright of Kennington advises the application of an air valve, by means of which the conduit pipes may be kept empty when there is no occasion for a supply of water. A description of this valve may be seen in the Philosoph. Mag. for July 1804. p. 147.

Th. de Saussure has found in the ashes of the seeds of maize, wheat, beans, and several other vegetables, a large quantity of phosphate of pot-ash, united to a small quantity of lime or magnesia.

M. Klaproth has lately analysed some of the glass pastes of the ancients which were found on the island of Capri, among the ruins of a villa built by the emperor Tiberius. Two hundred grains of red antique glass paste consisted of silex, 142 grains, oxide of lead 28, oxide of copper 15, oxide of iron 2, alumine 5, lime 3.—

The

The same quantity of antique green glass paste consisted of silex 130 grains, oxide of copper 20, oxide of lead 15, oxide of iron 7, lime 13, alumine 11. The same quantity of antique blue glass paste was composed of silex 163 grains, oxide of iron 19, alumine 3, oxide of copper 1, lime $\frac{1}{2}$.

M. Brugnatelli has discovered, that when nitric acid acts upon paper, a large quantity of suberic acid mixed with oxalic acid is obtained. This seems to prove, that Fourcroy with propriety placed cork among the immediate principles of vegetables.

It appears from the experiments of Klaproth, that *dolomite*, a stone of the St. Gothard, has been falsely analysed, both by Saussure and Hauy. It is composed of carbonated lime 52, and carbonated magnesia 0.25. The case is the same with the primitive lime which constitutes the mass of the Alps (of Julius and Rhætica.) It contains 48 per cent. of the carbonate of magnesia, and 52 of the carbonate of lime. All these different stones form only one family with the bitter spar and miemite.

La Lande's prize for the most interesting observation or memoir in astronomy, has been adjudged to *Piazzi* of Palermo, for his valuable work, which contains the positions of 6000 stars (mentioned in a former memoir.) It is entitled, *Precipuarum stellarum inerrantium positiones medio ineunte seculo* XIX. *ex observationibus habitis in speculo Panormitana*. Panormi, 1803. one vol. fol.

A new chemical lamp, with double concentric wicks, has been invented by Mr Frederic Accum, by means of which many chemical operations may be performed at a cheap rate, and with much facility and dispatch. The chief improvement of this lamp consists in its power of affording an intense heat by the addition of a second cylinder added to that of the common lamp of Argand. This additional cylinder incloses a wick one inch and a half in diameter, and by this ingenious contrivance a double flame is produced, having more than three times the heat of an Argand's lamp of the largest size. A description and drawing of the lamp may be seen in Nicholson's Journal, No. 32. p 266.

The following method of preparing copal varnish with the essence of turpentine merely, has been discovered by Professor Tingry. Take liquified copal three ounces, and essence of turpentine 20 ounces, place the mattress containing the turpentine in a balneum mariæ, and add the pulverized copal in small doses when the water is warm. Keep stirring the mixture, and add no more copal till the former be incorporated with the oil. If the oil, in consequence of its particular disposition, can take up three ounces of it, add a little more, but stop when the liquid becomes nebulous, and leave the varnish at rest. If it be too thick, dilute it with a little warm essence of turpentine, after having heated it in the balneum mariæ. This varnish has a good consistence, and is as free from colour as the best alcoholic varnish. It forms a very brilliant glazing when extended in one stratum over smooth wood, which has undergone no preparation, and in the course of two days, in summer, acquires all the solidity that may be required.

Professor Tingry has also invented a new furnace for the liquifaction of copal amber. When copal is prepared in this furnace, it has properties different from, and more extensive than those communicated to it by the common method; and it has not that dark brown colour which it acquires by too high a temperature, and too long exposure to heat. The reader who wishes farther

ther information on this important subject, may consult the English edition of Professor Tingry's painter's and varnisher's guide, or the Philosoph. Mag. for July 1804. p. 155. where he will find a description and drawing of the furnace.

The national institute of France has offered a prize for the best theory of the perturbation of the planet Pallas, discovered by Dr Olbers. The formulæ which astronomers have given for the perturbations of the other planets, and which, in the case of Ceres, have been developed to the fifth order, are not sufficient for the planet Pallas, whose eccentricity is greater than that of Mercury, and whose inclination is 34°..37′, nearly 5 times greater than that of any of the other planets. It is even difficult to conjecture what will be the powers and the dimensions of the products which it may be allowable to neglect, and the calculations may be of such length, and the formulæ so complex, as to frighten the ablest astronomers from executing them.

A new literary society has lately been established, which promises to be of great benefit to science. It is denominated the society of Athenian Travellers. Future members, who have visited Athens, are to be admitted by ballot.

A new Churn has been invented by Mr William Bowler, who has received from the Society of Arts, the sum of thirty guineas as a reward for his ingenuity. A drawing and description of this churn may be seen in the transactions of the above society, v 13. or in the Philosophical Magazine, N°. 73. page 56.

A curious Telegraph has lately been prepared in France which consists of the human figure, adapted to converse at a distance by means of signs. A description of it may be seen in Nicholson's Journal, N°. 31. p. 164.

An useful machine for laying land level, has been invented by Mr David Charles, who received from the Society of Arts their silver medal. See Nicholson's Journal, N°. 31. p. 181.

Murrayfield, August 17. 1804. D. B.

Extracts.

Historical Account of New Providence.

(From M'Kinnen's Tour through the British West Indies.)

THE early part of the history of this colony consists, in a great measure, of the desultory transactions of a daring body of pirates, who fixed on the harbour of Nassau as the rendezvous of their shipping and the depôt of their spoil. The shoal water on the banks, and the numerous keys inaccessible to large ships, and difficult of approach to all, afforded them for many years, in prosecuting their depredations in the West Indies and remoter seas, a secure and convenient retreat.

New Providence was visited by Columbus on the 17th of October in the year 1492, and named *Fernandina* in honour of Ferdinand king of Spain. But so much was the public attention engrossed by the valuable countries to which he afterwards directed his course, that the discovery

very of the island was attributed to an English navigator (Captain William Sayle,) driven there in the year 1667 on his passage to Carolina. From the fortunate preservation which, on that or a subsequent voyage, he experienced in this island from shipwreck, captain Sayle was induced to call it Providence. As the same name, however, had been given to a district of country on the coast of our northern settlements in America, this, as the latest discovery, was probably distinguished by the description of *New* * Providence. From the representation which this gentleman made on his return home to the proprietors of Carolina (of which colony he was afterwards Governor,) Providence, with the other Bahama Islands, was granted by Charles II. to the Duke of Albemarle and five other proprietary lords. Shortly after its location some emigrants from England and the other colonies in America having settled, or proposing to form a settlement, on the island, in the 1672, Mr Collingworth was sent out to superintend the infant colony at Nassau. Some misunderstanding, however, taking place, he was afterwards seized by the licentious inhabitants (probably for the most part pirates,) and transported to Jamaica. Although the proprietary lords some years afterwards sent out a successor to Mr Collingworth, they do not appear to have made any energetic efforts to repress such audacities in future: but the Spaniards, who were more interested to inflict an exemplary vengeance on a colony which, in the neighbourhood of one of their valuable possessions, committed incessant depredations on its commerce, made frequent and ineffectual attempts to exterminate the settlement at Nassau. From this motive, combined with the jealousy they always entertained of the colonization of any other nation in a part of the globe which they considered exclusively as their own, in one of their descents on Nassau, it is said they actually *roasted* Mr Clarke the Governor. But the pirates, whose loss of property was easily replaced by the means by which it was originally acquired, were no sooner dispersed than they returned to their favourite asylum: and the only permanent effect produced by these attacks was a more malignant hatred against their invaders, cherished even to this day; for no where in the West-Indies have I remarked that the Spaniards are so much dreaded and detested as in the Bahamas.

In a course of years several Governors were successively appointed; but I have found little either interesting or curious in the detail of their proceedings. On arriving at this remote government, they were either intimidated by the licentious colonists, or suffered with them the vengeance which the cruel and exasperated Spaniards were invited to inflict on this settlement by the symptoms of its growing prosperity. In the last attack, in the year 1708, the French united with the Spaniards. The negroes were taken off, and the inhabitants, who had secreted themselves in the woods, afterwards retired to Carolina. Previous to this epoch the settlers amounted to about 1000 in number on the islands, and some promising attempts had been made to cultivate provisions, sugar, and tobacco. Mr Birch, the succeeding Governor, who visited Providence, found it totally uninhabited, and having encamped for some time in the woods, returned to England.

* This epithet *New*, however, was perhaps applied to this island to distinguish it from the little island of *Old* Providence, lying west of the Musquito shore.

HISTORY OF BLACK BEARD THE PIRATE.

The pirates, however, who had become at this period more numerous and formidable than ever, finding the place deserted, returned, after their successful voyages, to riot at Nassau in every species of debauchery and excess. The History of their lives * is replete with those instances of enterprise, ferociousness, and generosity, which characterize the actions of brave, uneducated, and thoughtless men. *Hostes humani generis*, they attacked and plundered the vessels of every nation which they met, without excepting at all their own. At length the impudence and success of one, amongst other notorious leaders, had so much attracted the public attention, that his Majesty King George I., at the solicitation of the merchants of London and Liverpool, was induced to send out a respectable armament under the intrepid navigator Captain Woodes Rogers, with a determination to reduce the colony to obedience. The Governor, however, did not arrive before the death of John Teach, nicknamed *Black Beard*. As his name is still familiar to the inhabitants of Nassau †, I was induced to make myself acquainted with his story on this the principal scene of his actions.

This extraordinary man had united in his fortunes a desperate and formidable gang of pirates, styling himself their Commodore, and assuming the authority of a legitimate chief. Under a wild fig-tree, the trunk of which still remains, and was shown to me in the eastern part of the town, he used to sit in council amongst his banditti, concerting or promulgating his plans, and exercising the authority of a magistrate. His piracies were often carried on near the English settlements on the coast of North America, where he met with extraordinary success. Perhaps in the history of human depravity it would be difficult to select actions more brutal and extravagant than Black Beard's biographer has recorded of him. As the narrative to which I allude is generally credited, and bears strong internal evidence of truth, it may be amusing to mention a few particulars of a man who was for some time considered as sovereign of this island.

In person as well as disposition this desperado, who was a native of England, seems to have been qualified for the chief of a gang of thieves. The effect of his beard, which gave a natural ferocity to his countenance, he was always solicitous to heighten, by suffering it to grow to an immoderate length, and twisting it about in small tails like a Ramillies wig; whence he derived the name of Black Beard. His portrait in time of action is described as that of a complete fury; with three brace of pistols in holsters slung over his shoulders like bandoliers, and lighted matches under his hat, sticking out over each of his ears. All authority as well as admiration amongst the pirates was conferred on those who, committing every outrage on humanity, displayed the greatest audacity and extravagance. Black Beard's pretensions to an elevated rank in the estimation of his associates may be conceived from the character of his jokes. Having often exhibited himself before them as a dæmon, he determined once to show them a hell of his own creation. For this purpose he collected a quantity of sulphur and combustible materials between the decks of his vessel; when, kindling a flame and shutting down the hatches upon his crew, he involved himself with them literally in fire and

* Written by Captain Johnson.

† A person, I believe, now living there, recollects him.

and brimstone. With oaths and frantic gestures he then acted the part of the devil, as little affected by the smoke as if he had been born in the infernal regions; till his companions, nearly suffocated and fainting, compelled him to release them. His convivial humour was of a similar cast. In one of his ecstasies, whilst heated with liquor and sitting in his cabin, he took a pistol in each hand; then, cocking them under the table, blew out the candles, and, crossing his hands, fired on each side at his companions*: one of them received a shot which maimed him for life. His gallantry also was of the same complexion as this vein of humour. He had fourteen wives, if they may be so called. But his conduct towards one of them appears to have been too unfeeling and unmanly to admit of description.

The English government, having determined to clear the sea of these ruffians, directed some ships of war to effect that purpose in the early part of last century. Black Beard at that time was lurking in a small vessel in the creeks and shallows of an inlet near Cape Hatteras, in North Carolina. But the chief magistrate of that province having long connived at his robberies, the sufferers gave information to the Governor of Virginia, and the naval force on that station was directed to assist in the extermination of the pirates. The intrepidity displayed in this service by a lieutenant of the name of Maynard, at least equal to that of the rover, and in a better cause, deserves a circumstantial relation.

From the nature of Black Beard's position, in a sloop of little draught of water, on a coast abounding with creeks, and remarkable for the number and intricacy of its shoals, with which he had made himself intimately acquainted, it was deemed impossible to approach him in vessels of any force. Two hired sloops were therefore manned from the Pearl and Lime frigates in the Chesapeak, and put under the command of the gallant officer before named, with instructions to hunt down and destroy this pirate wherever he should be found. On the 17th of November in the year 1718 this force sailed from James River, and in the evening of the 21st came to an inlet in North Carolina, where Black Beard was discovered at a distance lying in wait for his prey. The sudden appearance of an enemy preparing to attack him occasioned some surprise; but his sloop mounting several guns, and being manned with twenty-five of his desperate followers, he determined to make a resolute defence; and, having prepared his vessel over night for action, sat down to his bottle, stimulating his spirits to that pitch of phrenzy by which only he could rescue himself in a contest for his life. The navigation of the inlet‡ was so difficult that Maynard's sloops were repeatedly grounded in their approach; and the pirate, with his experience of the soundings, possessed considerable advantage in manœuvring, which enabled him for some time to maintain a running fight. His vessel, however, in her turn, having at length grounded, and the close engagement becoming now inevitable, he reserved her guns to pour in a destructive fire on the sloops as they advanced to board him. This he so successfully executed, that twenty-nine men of Maynard's small number were either killed or wounded by the first broadside, and one of the sloops for a time disabled. But notwithstanding this severe loss, the lieutenant

* One of the guests, who related this anecdote, perceiving what was likely to happen, adroitly took himself off.

‡ Occacocke inlet, a little south of Cape Hatteras.

lieutenant persevered in his resolution to grapple with his enemy, or perish in the attempt. Observing that his own sloop, which was still fit for action, drew more water than the pirate's, he ordered all her ballast to be thrown out, and, directing his men to conceal themselves between decks, took the helm in person, and steered directly aboard of his antagonist, who continued inextricably fixed on the shoal. This desperate wretch, previously aware of his danger, and determined never to expiate his crimes in the hands of justice, had posted one of his banditti with a lighted match over his powder magazine to blow up his vessel in the last extremity. Luckily in this design he was disappointed by his own ardour and want of circumspection: for, as Maynard approached, having begun the encounter at close quarters by throwing upon his antagonist a number of hand grenadoes of his own composition, which produced only a thick smoke, and conceiving that from their destructive agency the sloop's deck had been completely cleared, he leaped over her bows, followed by twelve of his men, and advanced upon the lieutenant, who was the only person then in view. But the men instantly springing up to the relief of their commander who was now furiously beset and in imminent danger of his life, a violent contest ensued. Black Beard, after seeing the greater part of his men destroyed at his side, and receiving himself repeated wounds, at length, stepping back to cock a pistol, fainted with the loss of blood, and expired on the spot. Maynard completed his victory by securing the remainder of these desperate wretches, who were compelled to sue for mercy, and a short respite from a less honourable death at the hands of the executioner.

ACCOUNT OF GOVERNOR ROGERS.

From this and other successful efforts of the royal navy, as well as his own formidable squadron, Governor Rogers, on his arrival at Providence, found very little resistance to his authority. Vane, one of the pirates, who was then in the harbour, after making some show of resistance, set fire to his ship, and retired in a small vessel with about fifty of his men. The rest of the inhabitants cheerfully united in promoting the Governor's views for the interest and defence of the colony, by surrounding the dilapidated fortress with palisadoes, clearing the public roads, and rebuilding the town, which a few years before had been laid waste. Sensible, however, that persons of the description of these colonists would find their most natural and useful occupation on the sea, he encouraged them to adventure in small vessels on trading voyages. Some of them at first discovered a hankering after their old profession, and in one or two instances ran away with their vessels, but were afterwards constrained to return and submit. Many families were now induced to settle at Nassau, and amongst others, for some time, a body of Germans from the Palatinate. A council of twelve persons was nominated by the Governor, to assist in the transaction and arrangement of public concerns, and a regular militia was established for the defence of the island. The population of Nassau at this time did not exceed 1000 souls.

After the departure of Governor Rogers, the history of this island affords nothing but the detail of a variety of local disputes and inquietudes under his successors, which have almost uniformly disfigured the earlier annals of our colonial establishments. In the year 1740 Mr Bruce (in whose memoirs many of the principal facts respecting the colony are mentioned) was sent out as an engineer to fortify the town and harbour of Nassau. But for several

veral succeeding years I have found nothing deserving notice.

COLONEL DEVEAUX'S CONQUEST OF THE ISLAND IN 1783.

DURING the earlier part of the American war the island was taken by a small force under Commodore Hopkins, and abandoned as untenable. But it was retaken afterwards in the year 1781 by the Spaniards, assisted by the Americans, and retained during the remainder of the war. But previous to the notification of the treaty, an enterprising young officer, Lieutenant-colonel Deveaux of the South Carolina militia, had undertaken, with a body of about fifty volunteers, to recover the possession of the island, at that time garrisoned by seven hundred Spanish regular troops. He sailed on this desperate attempt in two armed brigantines, commanded by Captains Dowd and Fennell, from St Augustine in East Florida; and after picking up a few recruits, principally negroes, at Eleuthera and the adjacent island, appeared off the key which forms the harbour of Nassau on the east of the town towards night. The conquest of a fortified island by so disproportionate a body of men could only be effected by consummate ingenuity and address. The men were landed, without opposition, to the east of Fort Montagu, which guards the entrance of the harbour in that quarter; and so great was the supineness of the garrison, that, when the invaders had reached the ramparts, the sentinel only was awake to defend them. He appeared with a lighted match in his hand, ready to blow up the fortress in case of extremity. But Colonel Deveaux, who headed the attack, before he could recover from his surprise sprang upon him, and frustrating his intention, made him a prisoner with the sleeping garrison. Having thus easily possessed himself of Fort Montagu, Colonel Deveaux immediately proceeded to the top of the ridge, and took a position in front of the Governor's house in the upper part of the town. Every artifice was used to deceive the Spaniards, both as to the number and description of the enemy they had to contend with. A show of boats was made, continually rowing from the vessels, filled with men, who apparently landed, but in fact concealed themselves by lying down as they returned to the vessels, and afterwards made their appearance as a fresh supply of troops proceeding to disembark. Men of straw, it is said, were drest out to increase the apparent number on the heights; and some of the troops, to intimidate the Spaniards, were painted and disguised as their inveterate foes the Indians. One or two galleys in the harbour had been captured; and, trusting to the circumstances in his favour, Colonel Deveaux summoned the Governor to surrender, with a pompous description of his formidable force. Some hesitation being at first discovered, the Colonel seconded his overtures with a well-directed shot at the Governor's house from a field-piece, during his deliberation, which produced an immediate capitulation. The Spanish troops, in laying down their arms, it is said, could not refrain from expressing the utmost mortification and confusion, as they surveyed their conquerors, not only so inferior in point of numbers, but ludicrous in their dress and military appearance.

After this period, New Providence, being restored to Great Britain, has increased in wealth and consequence; and the proprietary lords have relinqushed their title in favour of the crown.

Eliza Warner;—a Tale.

ELIZA WARNER was the daughter of a clergyman in Devonshire; she was educated under the eye of her mother, who, as well as her father, was particularly solicitous to form her mind to the love of rectitude. She was docile and good-natured; and as she grew up, the beauty of her person and her elegant attainments were the delight of her friends. In the sixteenth year of her age her father died, leaving his widow and three daughters in possession of a small estate.

Soon after this mournful event, William Benson, the son of a rich farmer, was captivated by the charms of Eliza, and declared his passion with all the simplicity of honourable love. As he was very amiable, he soon inspired his mistress with reciprocal tenderness, but their union was deferred on account of their youth and inexperience.

Meanwhile, Miss Anderson, a distant relation from London, paid Mrs Warner a visit; in the course of which she was so much delighted with the conversation and accomplishments of her cousin Eliza, that she proposed to take her into partnership in the millinery and perfumery business. After much hesitation, Mrs Warner agreed to the proposal, but her daughter felt some reluctance at the idea of a separation from William. He heard of her designation with all the anguish of true love; and in an interview he besought her with tears in his eyes to decline the offer of her friend, and crown his wishes by marriage. Eliza listened and wept: she told him that obedience to the will of an affectionate mother was an indispensible duty!—but assured him of her constancy. They parted with mutual vows of fidelity, unconscious that it was a last adieu; and Eliza soon afterwards accompanied her relative to London.

For some months after her arrival in the capital, Eliza's hours glided away in uninterrupted cheerfulness. The variety of Customers, the elegance of the town and its amusements, and the kind attention of Miss Anderson, compensated the lovely girl for the relinquishment of the peaceful rural bowers where she had so often tasted the sweets of domestic felicity, and listened to the voice of her tender William. She kept up a correspondence with him and her mother, which served at once to amuse and enliven her leisure hours.

Eliza Warner was a beautiful young woman; she had now attained her eighteenth year, and her graceful form was moulded by the hand of perfection. Her blue eyes effused the lustre of health, her complexion was delicately fair, and her dulcet voice irresistably affecting. As her cousin's shop was in Bond-street, it became the resort of several men of rank and fashion, some of whom tried various arts to seduce the lovely girl, but her modest yet dignified behaviour, abashed and awed even the brazen visage of the libertine.

A fever which raged in the neighbourhood seized Miss Anderson, who died after an illness of four days, leaving Eliza at once mistress of a small property and unprotected. Her anguish for the loss of a beloved relative was the only prelude to greater misfortunes. Her friendless situation, which ought to have commanded the pity and esteem, only served to raise the dishonourable hopes of the debauchee. The pretty milliner of Bond-street was often the toast at an adjacent tavern, nor could her utmost circumspection escape the shafts of Calumny.

Many were the artifices of dissipated young men of fashion to allure the lovely Eliza from the path of rectitude. Her virtue like a shield, defended her from the attacks of flattery, the glances of wantonness, and the sighs of desire. But though neither manly beauty, accomplished manners, nor all the splendour of wealth, could subvert her virtue, she was betrayed through a much more insidious and fatal medium—the mental cantharides of modern philosophy, as administered in novels and other popular productions of genius. Deceived by the sophistical reasonings of certain adepts in depravity, she was taught to consider an *ideal justice* as paramount to the social affections; consequently any man possessed of greater merit than William was entitled to the preference in her esteem.

While she indulged this pernicious opinion, the accomplished and witty Feignlove professed an honourable attachment, and as his affectation of passion

sion had all the appearance of sincerity, the deluded Eliza listened to him with complacency, forgetful of her rustic lover. Overcome by the soothing intreaties of her admirer, her bosom palpitated with the fondest emotions, and the treacherous Feignlove triumphed over her virtue.

On reflection, the consciousness of her honour roused her to phrensy, and her seducer, to allay her perturbation, promised to marry her. Day after day did Eliza urge her betrayer to lead her to the altar, while he constantly framed some plausible pretext for delay.

Meanwhile she received letters from her friends entreating her to return to the country: but these proofs of their affection only served to render her wretchedness more intolerable. She threw them from her in an agony of desperation; and Feignlove, who entered the apartment at the moment, and perceived the cause of her grief, hastily perused and committed them to the flames. Eliza importuned him in the most solemn manner to make her reparation by marriage. She mentioned her having relinquished her lover and friends for his sake: he appeared affected, calmed her mind by promises, but left her house with a determination never to return!

Alarmed at his absence during the whole of the next day, she sent her maid-servant to his lodgings, who on enquiry found that he had removed to another quarter of the town, and that his trunks were to be sent in a hackney coach at nine o'clock the following night. Maddened by this intelligence, the unhappy Eliza hastened to end her misery by the destruction of her seducer and herself; with this determination she left the shop to the care of her servant, went to the former lodgings of Feignlove, and when the coachman came to take away the trunks, she bribed him to convey her secretly into her lover's apartments. The coachman, who looked on the adventure as a mere frolic or intrigue, conducted the business with so much address, that he conveyed Eliza into Feignlove's bed-chamber.

After she had remained about two hours in concealment she heard the voice of her seducer in an adjacent room. He had invited a number of gay young inmates to supper, and as they sat round the festive board, vaunting of their conquests over female credulity, Feignlove amused them with the history of his recent amour, and concluded with saying, "she is a charming girl, but I was completely satiated: let her now console herself in the arms of her rustic lover. She is not destitute, having a small shop; which is a lucky circumstance, for I am so confoundedly involved in debt that I could not have made any provision for her." "D——n it, Jack," cried one of the company, "Why did you not introduce me?" "No, faith," rejoined Feignlove, "I durst not have made that experiment. I really rejoice that my connection with her is ended, for her temper is so violent, that I sometimes trembled for my personal safety in her presence."

Eliza, who had listened with agonizing attention, felt her brain fired with a sudden phrenzy. She burst out of the bed-chamber before the astonished company, rushed forward to the table, and seizing a carving-knife, exclaimed, "Well might you tremble, villain!—well might you fear in the presence of her you had injured! for the vengeance of violated honour now pursues you!"

She then sprung upon Feignlove, plunged the knife into his heart, and instantly turned the point upon herself, but was disarmed and secured. Feignlove expired in a few minutes, begging her pardon with his last breath. The phrenzy of the wretched Eliza now subsided into melancholy, and she was removed to Bedlam, where, alas! no physician "*could minister medicine to her mind diseased*!"

While these calamities befel Eliza, her loved Mr Benson was suddenly enriched by a legacy of two thousand pounds, left him by an uncle. Overjoyed at his good fortune, he hastened to Mrs Warner, and prevailed upon her to consent to his union with his ever dear Eliza. He then hired a post-chaise, and hastened to the capital: on his arrival he went to Eliza's shop, but she was not there. Her maid-servant, who had waited with painful solicitude for her return, informed him that she had been missing about a fortnight, and was prevailed upon by his entreaties to discover all she knew about the seduction of his beloved mistress. The unhappy young man was overwhelmed with affliction; but tho' an impenetrable gloom of mystery hung over her fate, he resolved to discover her

if possible. His fond heart still languished for her, degraded as she was! He took lodgings in the house of a distant relation, who good-naturedly soothed his grief, and accompanied him to view the curiosities of London.

After having visited Westminster-abbey, St Paul's, and the Tower, they proceeded to Bedlam, where they surveyed the insane with commiseration. Their guide thro' this asylum of misery rendered the pitiable scenes still more affecting, by relating anecdotes of several of the patients; and as they proceeded to a remote apartment, he said, "we are now going to see an object truly entitled to our pity. The patient is a beautiful young woman, who was seduced, and abandoned by her seducer, whom she pursued, and in the madness of revenge murdered. She was a most lovely creature when brought hither a few days ago, but, as she will scarcely take any nourishment, she is reduced to a skeleton, notwithstanding our care. Poor thing, she is almost continually talking—tread softly, that we may observe her undisturbed." William felt a sudden qualm, and his heart sickened at the recollection of his lost Eliza, while his eyes glistened with sympathy for the sufferer.

They entered the room so silently that the maniac, who was seated on a chair with her back towards the door, did not perceive them. She appeared as if talking to another person, with her right hand extended in the attitude of intreaty. "Ah! my dear Feignlove," cried she, in a low querulous voice, "I see—I see the wound in your side!—forgive me!—but why did you deceive me?" "Gracious Providence," exclaimed William, "it is my Eliza!" The maniac turned her head: it was indeed Eliza:—but so altered, that her lover started back as if from a spectre.—Her once blooming cheek was pale—her eyes were sunk—her lips vivid—the gloom of moody melancholy frowned on her once polished and serene brow. She viewed William with a wild and vacant glare; he approached, and a feeble ray of recognition for a moment animated her visage. She started up with a smile of ecstacy and outstretched arms, but in a moment her countenance changed, she uttered a shriek of horror, and sunk back into the chair. William supported her in his arms, while his generous heart was bursting with sorrow to meet his beloved Eliza thus unexpectedly—deprived of honour—and of reason—and sinking to the grave!—While he strove to restore her to life, the tears of faithful love gushed from his eyes, and besprinkled her face as he bent mournfully over her. She revived for a moment—opened her eyes, gazed affectionately on his face, and instantly expired. Medical aid was called in, but life was gone, and gone for ever.

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The Charge of the Chief Justice, Edward Christian, Esq. to the Grand Jury, at the last Assizes held at Ely; to which are annexed Observations upon the Inefficacy of an Armed Peasantry, and the Utility of arming the Constables; with Suggestions for a Plan of adding immediately to the National Force 400,000 independent Fuzileers, without any Public Expence, and with little Inconvenience to Individuals. 1s.

An Answer to Dr Gillies' Supplement to his Analysis of Aristotle's Works; in which the Unfaithfulness of his Translation of Aristotle's Ethics is unfolded. By Thomas Taylor.

Mineralogy.

Organic Remains of a former World; or, an Examination of the Mineralized Remains of the Vegetables and Animals of the Antediluvian World, generally termed Extraneous Fossils. By Jas Parkinson. Vol. I. containing the Vegetable Kingdom, with coloured Plates. 4to. 2l. 2s.

Military.

A Plan for rendering a Levee en Masse, defensive, and permanently useful; in which the Use of the Pike is introduced. With Plates. 2s. 6d.

The Proceedings of the General Court-Martial upon Major John Gordon, of the late 8th West-India Regiment. Published from an official Copy received from the Judge Advocate General. By the Hon. Andrew Cochrane Johnstone.

Travels.

Letters on Silesia, written during a Tour through that Country in the Years 1800, 1801. By his Excellency John Quincey Adams. Embellished with a New Map. 8s. boards.

Topography.

The History of Leicestershire, containing the Hundred of West-Goscote. By John Nichols, F. A. S. Embellished with 95 Plates, *The Fifth Portion.* Folio.

North Wales, including its Scenery, Antiquities, Customs, and some Sketches of its Natural History, delineated. By the Rev. Wm. Bingley, A. M. Illustrated with a new Map, Frontispiece, and several favourite Welsh Airs. 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 1s. boards.

Theology.

A Sermon preached before the Lords in the Abbey Church, Westminster, 25th May. 1804. being the day appointed for a General Fast. By the Bishop of Gloucester. 1s. 6d.

The Authenticity, uncorrupted Preservation, and Credibility, of the New Testament. By Godfrey Less, late Professor in the University of Gottingen. Translated from the last Edition of the German. By Roger Kingdon A. M. 8vo. 7s. boards.

The Limit of our Inquiries with respect to the Nature and Attributes of the Deity: a Sermon preached before the Universities of Cambridge, July 1. 1804. By Charles Law, D. D. 4to 38 pages.

The Importance of Education to the Christian Minister; a Sermon preached at Exeter, June 1804. in Recommendation of the Academical Institution in that City. By John Kentish 8vo. 30 pages.

Foreign Books Imported.

Virgilius, Heynii, 4 Vols. new Edition, 2l. 8s. Lips. 1804.

Ditto, 4 Vols. fine Paper, 3l.

Homeri

Homeri Ilias, Heynii, cum brevi annotatione. 2 vols. Lips. 1804.
Ditto, 2 vols, fine Paper.
Pindarus, Heynii. 3 vols. 2l. 2s.
Pindarus, in usum Scholarum, Heynii.
Homeri Ilias, cura Wolfii. 2 vols. vellum Paper, 1l. 14s. new Edition. Lips. 1804.
Ditto, 2 vols. common Paper, with 32 Plates. 1l. 14s.
Novum Testamentum Græcum, cum notis Criticis, edidit Griesbach. Vol. I. and II. 4to. A splendid Edition. 5l. 15s. 6d.
Cicero de Finibus. Edidit Rath. 12s. Lips. 1804.
Ditto, vellum Paper. 18s. Lips. 1804.
Theocritus, a Dahl. 10s. 6d. Lips. 1804.
Anthologia Gr. a Jacobs. Vol. XII. 10s.
Plinii Panegyricus, a Gierig, 6s. Lips. 1804.
Wildenow, Hortus Berolinensis. No. One, Two, Three, 3l.
Someriny, Icones Oculi Humani. 4l.
Roche Aymon, Art de la Guerre. 4 vols. and plates separate 3l. 3s 1804.
Dindorf, Lexicon Hebraicum. Vol. 2.
Damasceni; Historiarum, Excerpta & Fragmenta Græce. 8s 6d.
Homeri Batrachomyomachia. 6s. 1804.
Euripidis Tragœdia Quatuor, a Porson 12s.

Literary *and* Scientific Notices.

AMONG the literary curiosities of the present year, the Life, Correspondence, and Papers, of the late celebrated John Wilkes, will hold a distinguished place. Mr John Almon, author of the Life of Chatham, and other works, many years the publisher and intimate of Wilkes, has obtained from his family, and from the executors of Miss Wilkes, all the letters and literary remains of that extraordinary man. These highly curious and interesting papers Mr Almon intends to publish in four or five elegant volumes, to which he will prefix a full and accurate Life of Mr Wilkes, embellished with various engravings.

The managers and visitors of the Royal Institution have announced a Proposal, to raise a fund of 4000l. in order to contribute further towards forming, and connecting with the Institution, an extensive and useful collection of minerals; so as to establish there on a great scale, an Assay Office for the improvement of mineralogy and metallurgy. This fund is intended to be applicable, under the direction of mineralogists and chemists, to the following purposes, viz. the formation of a scientific collection of minerals on such a scale, as to include all the latest discoveries;—the arrangement of the collection in a manner to exhibit all the interesting series of mineralogical facts;—and the establishment of an Assay Office, to be exclusively employed for the advancement of mineralogy and metallurgy. To attain this national object, and to encourage contributions to the funds for the original establishment of the Collection and Assay Office, it is proposed to give the subscribers similar privileges to those, on which a large sum has been recently and rapidly collected for the Library of Reference, with only this difference, (which the difference of the object appears to warrant) that, in case of a patron's subscription to this Collection, whether a proprietor, a life subscriber, or an annual subscriber to the Institution, it may be competent for him to exercise the rights of a patron; and, that a select committee shall, from time to time, be appointed by the managers from among the subscribers, to form and arrange the Collection, and direct the operations of the Assay Office. With respect to the subscription for the Collection, it is proposed to open it, not only to the proprietors and subscribers of the Institution, but to the members of the different mineral companies, and others, in this kingdom, and also to the members of the established learned bodies.

Dr Mavor, who is advantageously known by his publications on natural history, many years ago projected a work, of singular splendour and interest, under the title of "A Dictionary of British Botany," with coloured plates, for which he has long been collecting materials. The detail of his plan will probably be announced early next spring; and should it obtain satisfactory patronage, he intends, we understand, to follow it with a "Dictionary of British Zoology," on a similar plan.

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The same gentleman has lately invited the communications of naturalists in every part of the kingdom, relative to the *appearance* and *disappearance* of the *swallow tribe*; and as some of the *hirundines* will soon retire for the winter, he respectfully requests the curious observer to favour him with authentic remarks, verified by date, place, and name, in the time and manner of their disappearance, with any other circumstance connected with their history, that can throw new light on this interesting subject.

The promised Memoirs of the late GILBERT WAKEFIELD, B. A. in two volumes, octavo, will appear in the course of this month.

KOTZEBUE, having visited Paris in the spring of the present year, has written an account of his journey, of which a translation will soon appear in London. During his residence in the French metropolis, he was treated with the degree of public respect which is due to his genius, and he has narrated the particulars, and described French characters and manners with the liveliness which distinguishes all his writings.

DR BISSETT is engaged on a novel in which he purposes to expose "the craft of Methodism."

The seventh volume of the Bibliographical Dictionary, which will complete the work, will be speedily published. This last volume will contain an account of the best English translation of each Greek and Latin classic, an Essay on Bibliography, &c. &c.

HORNEMANN, the African traveller, for whose safety some apprehensions were entertained, is reported to be on his return from the interior to the coast, whence he will embark for Europe.

A new edition of the works of BEN JOHNSON, with a Life, is preparing for the press by a gentleman of Dublin.

Mr CRABB is compiling a new Dictionary of the German and English Languages, in which he proposes to comprise the really useful for the English or German scholar, within the space of a pocket dictionary.

Mr THOMAS TAYLOR is employed in translating into English the whole Works of Aristotle, with the substance of the commentaries of his best Greek interpreters.

A new edition of the late Rev. MICAIAH TOWGOOD's Letters in Justification of the Principles of Dissent is in the press. To this edition will be prefixed a vindication of the sentiments and character of the author from some recent misrepresentations.

A new edition of Dr CAMPBELL's Translation of the Gospels and Dissertations, with the author's last corrections and notes, will be published in the course of the present month.

The Life of the late Dr PRIESTLEY will be written by his son, assisted by Mr COOPER, between whom and the Doctor a great intimacy subsisted for many years.

A work is in the press to be entitled, "Protestant Ascendancy in Ireland considered, by an Englishman."

MELCHIOR has lately published a work in the Latin language, containing a comparison between the advantages and disadvantages of public and private education. The result of his enquiries is, that private education is adapted to children, and public the most beneficial to be pursued in terminating a liberal education.

Professor MATTHÆI has lately discovered in the library of Augsburg a manuscript fragment of the Clytemnestra of Sophocles, which will be published immediately. It contains three hundred verses, beginning with a prologue in the character of Tisiphone, and ending with a chorus; it is supposed to comprise the whole first act.

JACOBS has just published the twelfth volume of his edition of the Greek Anthology.

The Abbate TESTA has published Dissertations on the Two Zodiacs lately discovered in Egypt, in which he controverts their antiquity.

BOTHE has published a complete Version of Euripides, in German, in five volumes octavo.

CUVIER, the well-known natural historian, has lately published a work on the species of animals that no longer exist.

COURET-DE VILLENEUVE has lately published a botanical work at Paris, containing a description of all the plants that are cultivated in the garden of the central college at Ghent, arranged according to the Linnean system.

ANQUETIL DUPERRON has published the second volume of his Translation of the Dupnek lat, which contains the ancient and secret doctrines of the sacred books of the Hindoos. The same gentleman

gleman is engaged in preparing a Dictionary and Grammar of the Sanscrit Language.

In Germany, a work is published entitled the Italian Cabinet. It is divided into seven parts. 1. Minerals and species of lava; 2. Bronzes; 3. Etruscan, Roman, and Egyptian vases; 4. Shells found in the gulph of Naples; 5. Notices of the most distinguished persons at present living in Rome and Naples; 6. Engravings of views in and near those cities; and, 7. Accounts of the present state of the fine arts there.

A large collection of books, to the value of 64,000l. is, by the permission of his Imperial Majesty, to be disposed of by way of lottery at Moscow. The largest prize will carry with it books to the value of 1,250l. Besides this there are 35,000 other prizes, the least of which is valued at ten rubles. His imperial Majesty has purchased 1000 tickets, which he means to distribute among the various establishments for public instruction.

Public lectures have begun to be delivered in Petersburg, to the artillery corps, on Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, &c. The officers are under the necessity of diligently attending to these lectures, as it is understood that those only will in future be promoted who have made a proficiency in these branches of science.

In the late public sitting of the Athenæum of Poictiers, Citizen JOUYNEAU DESLOGES presented to the assembly an old book, printed at Poictiers in the year 1585, which proves, that long before Richelet, a Poictevin had conceived the idea of a *Dictionary of Rhymes*, and had executed the same with much ability. The author of this work was named *Pierre le Gaynard*. His book is entitled—"*Promptuaire d'unisson, ordonne et dispose methodiquement, pour tous ceux qui veulent promptement composer en Vers Francois*," &c.; or, "A Manual of similar Endings, disposed in methodical Order, and calculated for the Use of all such as wish to compose readily in French Verse."—In the same sitting, Citizen BONCENNE pronounced a discourse on the origin of French poetry, which he attributes to William IX. Count of Poictou.

A correspondent of the *Magazin Encyclopedique*, in a letter to the editor, wherein he gives an account of a late excursion of his to Poictiers, observes, that this city is well known to be rich in antiquities. He particularly admired the vast ruins of a Roman amphitheatre, provided with aqueducts intended to convey water, and calculated to exercise in naval combats those *Pictones*, whose nautical talents were so celebrated in the time of Cæsar. The arena of this monument (the writer of the letter is here speaking) much less known than it deserves to be, was 500 feet in length, by 250 in breadth. Only half of it is, at present, laid open; the other half is divided into a number of gardens, environed with walls. Behind the gardens, houses have been built on the inferior vaults of the amphitheatre, which serve for foundations and cellars. These houses form one of the sides of the ellipsis. On the other side, a considerable part of the higher stories still exists, and some of the lower vaults serve as a lodging for some poor families, who are ignorant that their cellars were formerly the abode of the ferocious animals of Africa, which the Romans collected for their public games; and that their chambers served formerly as passages or avenues to a curious multitude. The people ascribe all these ruins to the fairy Melusina, and to the very masses of stones they give the name of *La Merlusine*. It is wonderful (says the author) that the history of this pretended stock of the house of Lusignan, which is but romance, modern enough, should have become so popular in this country. Perhaps the author of it (*Jean d'Arras*) had founded his story on a more antient tradition. The above amphitheatre had but one gate; an arch or vault of about 30 feet in height by 20 in breadth, and nearly 50 paces in length; it still subsists, and presents an imposing *coup d'æil*; it led to the *podium*, and doubtless served as a *terminus* or extremity to the different communications. All the walls of this enormous edifice were covered with small square stones, disposed with great regularity; at present, this covering is almost every where fallen down, and we may perceive the bare flat stones, joined by an indestructible cement which compose the great mass of these ruins. The ancient walls of the city are built much the same. They are as solid as a rock, and like, the above ruins, they are 22 feet in width, and have a gallery from 8 to 10 feet wide in the middle. They likewise serve for cellars

to

to the inhabitants, and have equally the name of Merlusine, by which they designate, in this country, what in other parts is called works of the giants, or of the devil. The above interesting monuments, and many others of an antiquity no less remote, were shewn to us (says the author) by Dom Mazel, a very learned Benedictine, now librarian of the Central School. This person, of a rare merit, has passed his life in researches relative to the antiquities of his country. He has taken a number of designs of them with the greatest care, and his port folios would supply materials wherewith to compile a splendid work. He has likewise made a very fine collection of medals. The writer of the above letter adds, that he has prevailed upon Citizen Mazel to make a monography of his amphitheatre, and to transmit the same to Paris, to Citizen Millin, for the purpose of publication.

SCOTCH LITERARY NOTICES.

We are happy to announce to the public, and to the admirers of ancient Scottish Literature in particular, the publication of the poetical works of the Comic Poet of Scotland, Sir David Lyndsay of the Mount, Lord Lyon King at Arms, under James V.; in a corrected and enlarged form; by that able antiquary and judicious writer, George Chalmers, Esq. FRS. AS.

We understand that the work will be comprised in three volumes; the 1st to contain an introduction of previous history, as to the successive inhabitants of Scotland, with their several languages; concluding with notices of the preceding poets, and specimens of their style.

The 2d, a Life of Lyndsay, with remarks on his writings and his works, in the following chronological order:

1. The Dreme.
2. The Complaynt of Lyndsay.
3. The Complaynt of the King's Papingo.
4. A Satyre of the Thrie Estatis; being the first known Drama of Scottish Literature.
5. The answer to the King's Flyting.
6. The Complaynt of the King's auld hound callit Basche.
7. Ane supplicatioun to the King, in contemption of syde tails.
8. Kiltie's confessioun.
9. The deploratioun of the death of Queen Magdalen.
10. The Justing of Watsoun and Barbour.
11. The Tragedie of the Cardinal David Beaton, Archbishop of St. Andrews, &c.
12. The History of Squyre William Meldrum, with the Testament of the said squire.
13. The Four Monarchies, or ane dialog of the miserabil estait of this warld, betwixt Experience and ane Courteour.

Vol. III. will contain, a copious glossary of the Scottish language, with an Introduction, Historical and Etymological.

We need scarcely add, that, from the well-known skill, research, and extensive information of the Editor, in Scottish Antiquities, and the correct and compleat form in which the work may be expected to appear, it must be regarded as a valuable addition to our present stock of Scottish Literature.

A work has been lately sent to the press, which cannot fail to be highly interesting to every person, who has taken any interest in the long disputed controversy regarding the authenticity of the Poems attributed to Ossian. This is, the Report of the Committee of the Highland Society, on that subject, in answer to the objections of Mr Laing and other late writers, to these poems.

The Report, we understand, is to be edited by Henry Mackenzie, Esq. President of the Committee; and will be accompanied with a copious appendix of manuscript and other important original articles.

A work is now in the press, and will soon make its appearance by Mr Lowden, Landscape Gardener and Planner; being observations on the formation and management of Plantations, both useful and ornamental; on the theory and practice of Landscape Gardening, and on the new mode of embanking land from the sea.

We understand that the above will be comprehended in one vol. octavo, and very considerable expectations are formed of its utility.

POETRY

Poetry.

MY NATIVE VALE.

By Mr David Carey, author of the "Pleasures of Nature."

O LOVELY is my native vale,
With blue bells gay, and wild thyme spread,
And fragrance floating on the gale,
And sweet sounds murm'ring in the shade.
Yet there no poet ever stray'd,
To twine his wreath their sweets among,
And mark their bloom and blossom fade,
And bid them live again in song.

And sadly sweet the wild walks there,
By craggy cliff and mountain high,
When shoots athwart the livid air,
The red wrath of the polar sky.
Yet there no bard with rolling eye,
And rapid hand, and words of fire,
Struck to the notes of extacy,
And woke the spirit of the lyre.

The song of triumph, maids, prepare,
And fast begin the chaunted rite,
And proudly wave your golden hair,
And roll your blue eyes bath'd in light.
I mark a form divinely bright,
I hear the sweet notes of the skies,
As carrol'd soft on yonder height,
The long-lost lyre's fond breathings rise.

The fine form of the maid I love,
The voice of her that I hold dear,
Where'er her fairy footsteps move,
The flowers of Paradise appear.
And strains uncouth to mortal ear,
Float wildly on the rising gale,
As blooming, like the opening year,
She wanders o'er my native vale.

THE SHIPWRECK.

THE ship is unmoor'd,
All hands are on board,
Releas'd from the bonds of affection,
High mounted, the crew,
Bid a cheering adieu,
To stifle each fond recollection.

The sails all are spread,
The ship shoots a-head,
The rough billows proudly dividing;
Now plunging amain,
Now rising again,
Like a sea-bird on white bosom riding.

The wind louder grows,
And fiercer it blows,
Now shrill, and then hoarse as the thunder;
The masts all are bent,
And the topsail is rent,
By the swift-rushing blast burst asunder.

Awe struck, from the skies,
The pilot descries,
The whirlwind in circles descending;
And marks over-head,
Uplooking with dread,
The waves in white ridges impending.

The rudder is broke,
She reels from the stroke,
O'erwhelm'd for a moment she's sinking;
In silence, their fate,
The seamen await,
On the sweetness of home they are thinking.

The twilight is gone,
Dark night is come on,
All dreary and wild is the ocean;
And shoreward in haste,
The billows are chaced,
High raging in boundless commotion.

The breakers are heard,
And all are prepar'd,
To the rigging with cords they have bound them;
No star in the sky,
Nor light they espy,
But the foam of the waves all around them.

The landsman shall start,
As his slumbers depart,
On his straw-couch so peacefully lying;
And hear with affright,
Through the darkness of night,
The groans and the shrieks of the dying.

TO SCIENCE.

FAIR Science! in thy flowery road,
Oh! had my earliest footsteps trod;
With ardent thought aspiring still,
To scale thy heaven ascending hill,
Long since, of every joy possest
That warms thy fervent votary's breast,
My feet had trod that sacred ground,
Where thy sequester'd sons are found.
There, with the great of every age,
Explor'd thy mystery-teeming page;
Pursu'd the vast expanse of thought,
Beheld great Nature's wonders wrought,
And felt, perhaps, with conscious pride,
To Fame's immortal race allied,

ON SEEING A YOUNG LADY

Break off a single Rose-bud, and place it in her bosom.

AH! say, Maria! why in haste
To pluck that virgin flower away,
Where Nature's softest tints are trac'd,
And odours breathe of Love and May!

Forbear, Maria cruel fair!
Scarce have its beauties seen the day;
Scarce sipp'd Aurora's humid air,
Or smil'd in Phœbus' genial ray.

Sweet lonely floweret of the vale,
Its tears bedew thy heaving breast;
Yet, hark! methinks I hear a tale,
Soft to thy youthful ear address'd.

Thou art a flower, Maria! thrown
Amidst a wilderness of thorns;
A bloom of love but newly blown,
Which artless innocence adorns.

Ah! may no withering cares annoy,
No sickness blight thy vernal charms;
No clouds of sorrow mar thy joy,
Secure in Virtue's guardian arms.

May no belov'd, yet faithless youth,
Imprint thy bosom with despair;
But modest worth and spotless truth,
And love connubial blossom there.

Soft nymph! beware that syren sound,
When Pleasure temptsthee to herbow'rs;
Her words more deep than adders wound,
And scorpions lurk beneath her flowers.

DISAPPOINTMENT.

I SOUGHT thee near the secret ways
Where all along we wont to rove;
Where far estrang'd from vulgar gaze
We breath'd the timid hopes of love.

Where foliag'd full in vernal pride
Retiring winds thy fav'rite vale *:
And faint the moan of Avon's tide
Remurmurs to the Nightingale.

I sought thee sorrowing—no more
Thou met'st my gaze with rapture warm;
And ev'ry scene that charm'd before
Had lost the fickle power to charm.

At length, when spiritless and pale
I felt the languor of despair,
Far-seen thy undulating veil
Wav'd sportive on the eddying air.

Unconscious was thy onward haste;
And heedless roam'd thy vacant eye;
Unconscious of thy wand'rings trac'd,
And heedless of a lover nigh.

The riv'let from its rocky cell
Starting impetuous on the sight;
That eager speed betokens well
When love pursues the lover's flight.

In vain! in vain—with parting smile,
With ling'ring half-reverted view,
Waver'd thy dubious form awhile,
And hesitating slow withdrew.

As one in slumber's trance beguil'd
Enfolds a maiden's phantom charms;
And starts in mute amazement wild
To find her vanish'd from his arms:

So when the closing valve conceal'd
Thy long sought image from mine eyes,
My lips could no faint utt'rance yield—
None—but the eloquence of sighs.

Think on me, Love! full many a day
Has drear elaps'd since last we met;
Let thy lone musings fondly stray
To One, who ne'er can thee forget.

Hadst thou but known that morning's light
Can bring no other joy to me;
That in the silent gloom of night
I think on thee, and only thee:

And on thy glimm'ring casement gaze
Intent to watch the shadow'd wall;
If so the lamp's reflective rays
Thy stealing form might dim recall:

Thou sure hadst paus'd—some vow to frame,
With languishment of voice divine;
Or if to breathe my murmur'd name—
To hear me softly murmur thine.

If but to say, "My Love, farewell!"
In sighing fondness whisper'd sweet;
And in the tone of pity tell
My doating heart—We soon shall meet!

'Twas in the silence of thy breast—
But wherefore, ah! alone ador'd!
Wherefore that sound from him suppress,
Who prizes but thy lightest word?

"Farewell, my Love! we soon shall meet!"
Had breath'd consoling peace to me;
No smile of love were half so sweet,
Not half so sweet,—a smile from *thee!*

PROCEEDINGS

* The valley of Nightingales, opposite St Vincent's rocks, at Clifton.

PROCEEDINGS OF PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, *June* 13.

Mr Foster moved that the House do resolve into a Committee on the different acts relating to the linen trade of Ireland. He observed that the object of his motion was to give additional powers to the trustees of the linen manufacture in Ireland to appoint inspectors of linens in London, to prevent additional expence. As the laws stood at present, any linens exported from Ireland to London, if damaged, or supposed to be bad or damaged, must, on complaint being made, be sent back to Dublin for examination.—He proposed to remove this inconvenience by appointing three inspectors in this country, and if any dispute arose on this decision, it was to be referred, under certain regulations, to the trustees. Another point which he had in view related to the muriatic acid, which was a new substitute for pot-ash in bleaching. It had been said that the muriatic acid was injurious to the linen, and therefore it should be marked on each piece, whether in the process of bleaching, that acid, or pot-ash, was used, that the purchaser might have no future cause of complaint.

The House accordingly resolved into a Committee, and leave was given for a bill to explain and amend the same.

Thursday, June 14.

Lord Marsham reported from the Middlesex Election Committee, that a person named William Iliff, summoned as a witness before the Committee, had been guilty of very gross misbehaviour, for which the Committee had ordered him into the custody of the Serjeant at Arms. His Lordship then moved, that the said Wm. Iliff do stand committed accordingly, and that the Serjeant at Arms do take him before the Committee when and so often as he shall be required to do so. Ordered.

An account was ordered to be laid before the House, shewing the quantity of silver bullion imported, and since coined at the Mint, from the 13th of March, 1797, to the 31st of December, 1803.

Mr Damon, the Under Sheriff of Cornwall, was then brought to the bar. ——He received a very suitable reprimand from Mr Speaker for the offence he had committed, in annexing the return of Mr T. Sheridan to that of Mr Huskisson for the Borough of Liskeard. He was then ordered to be discharged, on paying his fees.

Mr Foster brought up a bill, amending the laws regulating the linen trade of Ireland.

Mr Rose brought up a bill, allowing the sale of certain East India prize goods in the port of Liverpool.

Mr Henry Lascelles obtained leave to bring in a bill, suspending, till the 1st of July, 1805, the penalties contained in an act of Elizabeth, so far as they relate to the woollen trade.

On the motion of Mr *Pitt*, the Additional Defence Bill was re-committed, and the Speaker left the chair.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that a reference to the returns for the army of reserve would prove that it had answered the expectations which were formed of it. By that act, the total required from England was 33 or 34,000 men, of which number 31,750 were raised within the space of little more than ten months. He granted that now there were 9000 deficient, but this arose partly from the number rejected, which amounted to 1752; partly from deaths amounting to 350, which was a small loss, being only in the proportion of 2 to the 100; and last of all, this deficiency was produced by desertion, which it was the object of the present bill to put a stop to, by removing balloting, and the temptation of great bounties.

Upon the 8th clause a discussion took place relative to the appointment of Inspector General; it was contended, on the one hand, that the appointment of inspectors would tend materially to facilitate the objects of the act. It would relieve the Deputy Lieutenants from a great deal of trouble and embarrassment, and enable the Executive Government more speedily to take such measures as the circumstances of the country might demand.

On the other side it was argued, that the appointment of Inspectors was positively an insinuation against the conduct of

of the Deputy Lieutenants. It seemed to proceed on the principle that they had not hitherto performed their duty, and that it was necessary to introduce Military Inspectors to correct the errors and crimes into which they had previously fallen. It was strongly contended, that such an insinuation against the Deputy Lieutenants must be seriously resented, and could not fail to be attended with the most injurious effects.—The clause was at length agreed to without a division.

Friday, June 15.

Mr Pitt's Defence Bill gave rise to a discussion this evening, interesting, not from any novelty of argument, but from the novelty of procedure. The Report of the Committee on the bill having been brought up, a division unexpectedly occurred on the question, "that the amendments be now read a second time." On this division the Ayes were 63, and the Noes 69, so that there was a majority of *six* against the Minister. The division was called for at a very early period of the evening, between five and six o'clock, and took place so suddenly, that many members of both parties who wished to vote crowded round the door of the lobby, but were too late to gain admission.

After the division, and during the exclusion of strangers, a discussion took place of a nature extremely singular. Mr Rose objected to the numbers declared, as the majority was composed, in his opinion, of gentlemen who had not been in the House *at the time when the question was put*, nor heard what little debate occurred, but rushed into the House merely to give their votes, and took their adversaries by a surprise which he deemed unfair. He appealed to Mr Fox to say, whether he was not himself of that number?

Mr Fox replied, that he was unconscious of, and far from being a party to any unfair advantage being taken; but he candidly owned that he had been some time out of the House; and, in the confusion the House was in, when the question was called for, by the number of members who, on such occasions, usually were called away from the refreshments they may be taking, he could not take upon him to say positively whether he was or was not in the House at the moment it was put from the chair.

Mr Rose declared, that he could take upon him to say there were at least six other members who entered the House after Mr Fox, and who could not therefore have heard the question put; for which reason he submitted whether the question had been fairly decided upon. Upon this a long conversation ensued, (which was the more curious, as, by the order of Parliament, in any proceeding on such questions they were all obliged to speak sitting, and with their hats on) the result of which was, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer admitted the right of any member to vote who came in before the division, and time enough to be counted.

This point being determined, the further discussion of the bill was postponed till Monday.

Saturday, June 16.

SCOTS BARLEY AND MALT COMMITTEE.

The Report of this Committee having been presented to the House by Sir John Sinclair, the Chairman, the following is an abstract of this important paper.

The report begins with stating the origin and progress of the duties on malt both in England and Scotland, and concludes that part of the paper with an account of the rates now payable in the two kingdoms, namely,

	Per Bushel.
1. On Malt from English Barley,	4s 4d
2. On Malt from Scots Barley,	3 8$\frac{1}{2}$
3. On Malt of Scots Bear or Bigg,	3 0$\frac{1}{2}$

It then proceeds to consider the different sorts of grain liable to the preceding duties, stating the advantages of barley over bigg or bear, and pointing out the necessity of cultivating bigg in the mountainous districts of Scotland. The discussion on this part of the subject concludes with the following observation:—

"On all these grounds, your Committee are impressed, not only with the necessity of promoting the cultivation of this species of grain in the northern or mountainous districts of Scotland, but also with the policy of avoiding, as much as possible, any measure by which the quantity usually produced is likely to be diminished."

The report then enters into the question

tion of the rate of duty that ought to be imposed on the barley or bigg of Scotland, compared to the barley of England, and states, from accounts produced by the Receiver General of Corn Returns, the average price of these different sorts of grain, for 12 years, ending 1st January 1804, as follows:—

	Per Quarter.
1. Average price of English Barley - -	L.1 16 11
2. Average price of Scots Barley - -	1 9 8¾
3. Average price of Scots Bigg	1 6 5½

Making a difference in price between English and Scots Barley, at the rate of 7s. 2d. farthing per quarter, and between English Barley and Scots Bigg to the amount of 10s. 5d. halfpenny per quarter. It is at the same time observed, that according to the Fiars of the year, the average price of Scots Bigg, during the same 12 years, is only at the rate of L. 1 4s. per quarter. In consequence of these circumstances, the Committee give it as their opinion, that there should be a deduction of duty in favour of Bigg, to the amount of one third of the taxes on Malt lately imposed, leaving the taxes prior to 1802 as they were. In regard to Scots Barley, as they cannot agree in opinion, they resolved to state the facts, and to leave it to the decision of Parliament.

The Committee next proceed to consider a Memorial from the inhabitants of Orkney and Shetland, and recommend an inquiry, whether the old mode of composition is not better calculated for the situation and circumstances of those distant regions, than the present mode of levying the taxes on Malt. The report then concludes with some general observations on the importance of the inquiry, being the only point, connected with the treaty of Union in 1707, which remains unadjusted."

In terms of the above report, *Mr Foster* brought in a bill for regulating the price at which corn, meal, grain, and flour, were to be imported into, and exported from, Great Britain and Ireland respectively, which was read a first time.

Mr Hobhouse presented a petition from the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Glasgow against the above Corn Trade Regulation Bill.

Mr Sturges Bourne moved for leave to bring in a bill against the counterfeiting the Silver Coin of Dollars in England, or of Tokens in Ireland, and prohibiting the importation of any such counterfeit coin into these kingdoms.

Mr Princep decried the idea of having employed any other coin than our own, or issuing any thing under the name of *Tokens*, at a higher value than their real and standard worth. Leave was given.

Monday, June 18.

William Iliff, in custody for misbehaviour before the Middlesex Committee, was reprimanded and discharged, upon paying his fees.

A bill to authorise Mr Boulton to export machinery for a mint to Denmark, was brought in and read a first time.

ADDITIONAL DEFENCE BILL.

Mr Pitt moved the order of the day for the second reading of the amendments on the additional defence bill. He stated, he had several amendments to propose; some in the shape of clauses, others merely verbal. The first clause related to the filling up of vacancies, from time to time, through death, desertion, or other casualties. The second was for the appointment of several places of rendezvous; and the last was one of considerable importance, relative to the provision to be made for the families of the men. Considerable difficulties had arisen on this subject, but he thought it would do away that provision from the parishes, when the men joined the regular army; their families would then be taken care of in the ordinary way. The next clause was one enacting that this additional force should not be kept up longer than six months longer after the Definitive Treaty of Peace, unless by some special act of Parliament.

The amendments were then read a second time, and agreed to; and Mr Pitt moved his new clauses.

Mr Grey wished to learn whether the officers were to have permanent pay.

Mr Pitt replied, they were to be on a similar establishment with the militia; that the force would be out as often in the year; and that, during peace, the officers would have half pay, except in the month they were embodied as the militia, when they would have full pay.

Mr Serjeant Best, in a speech of much ability, argued against the bill, which he

he characterised, like other gentlemen, as unequal, unjust, and partial, and so very pregnant with mischief, that it ought not to be passed into a law. He was aware that the country had submitted to great privations, but he trusted there was one privation it would never endure, and that was a privation of its liberty and constitution. The bill militated against one of the most sacred maxims of the constitution, established at the Revolution. The first clause of the bill, stated, that it was a bill for *establishing* and *maintaining* a permanent additional force. Could any man say such a force would be lulled asleep? The principle of the bill was a little disguised, but could it be safe to permit such a force to exist, whether it was called out or lying dormant. This force was also to be officered, not as the militia, by gentlemen having qualifications independent of the crown; the officers in these additional battalions were to have no qualification whatever, but to be dependent on the crown for their pay and rank. The bill of rights denied the existence of such a force: the mutiny bill also revolted at the idea. The mutiny bill regulated the army and militial and was an annual bill, giving Parliament a power of controlling or altering the military laws in any way. But the present went out of the hands of Parliament at once, and laid the foundation, in the face of the constitution, for the establishment and maintenance of a permanent regular standing army. He had another objection to the measure; it went to the reduction of the Militia, which was the constitutional counteracting force against the regular army. In the execution of the army of reserve act, it had been found impossible to get the number wanted by 9000, and he could not perceive how they were to be procured, under all the discouraging circumstances of the bill before the House. The learned Serjeant's speech seemed to make a considerable impression on the House.

Sir R. Peele argued in support of the plan, as preferable to an increase separately of the army or militia.

Lord Temple observed, that the late Ministry were attacked by him and his friends for their want of sufficient preparation against the dangers to which the country was exposed. One of their most strenuous defenders had long been the present Chancellor of the Exchequer. At length, however, the latter gave the opponents of that Administration the assistance of his splendid eloquence. He well recollected the anxiety with which the Right Hon. Gentleman professed himself to count the days, the hours, and even the minutes, which should elapse until the country was in a state of security. Many days, hours, and minutes had since passed, and the result of all his eagerness was the measure now under consideration, which was neither adequate to meet the present danger, nor to guard against the future. An Hon. and Learned Gentleman (the Attorney General) did not hesitate to support the present measure, though it was brought forward in lieu of that to which he had previously given his exclusive support; for he had discovered, that when two opposite measures, brought forward by different Administrations, were to be compared, the preference was always to be given to that of the present administration. The bill must be regarded in fairness as the offspring of the Chancellor of the Exchequer only. He could never believe that he had the concurrence of six of his colleagues. He had, indeed, professed to come into office to correct their blunders, and to rescue the country from their errors. He had represented them as men under whom the country could not prosper; yet they were men with whom he was content to govern. The Noble Lord then examined the various provisions of the bill, which he contended gave us all the disadvantages without any of the advantages of the militia system.

Mr Addington, in a speech of considerable length, compared the measure with that which he had the honour to introduce, and argued that the latter was in every respect preferable, as it tended to give the country at once a larger disposable force, while it violated no principle of the constitution, nor unnecessarily trenched upon the feelings, habits, and customs of a free people. He was hostile to the diminution of the Militia, the increase of which had been deemed necessary by Parliament, as a counterpoise to the very large additional standing army, which, in the present state of Europe, must be kept up even

in

in time of peace. He stated the peculiar satisfaction which he felt at hearing it now asserted, by Gentlemen on both sides of the House, that the internal security of the country had been placed beyond the possibility of any danger.

Mr Sheridan begged leave to return his thanks for the manly manner in which Mr Addington had declared himself, without having recourse to any circuitous methods. I certainly gave him all the feeble and insignificant support my powers would enable me to do; and I did it because I found in him a manliness of character, an uprightness of intention, and, above all, a sacred attention to the sound principles of the British Constitution. When out of office, he acted in the spirit of the same manly and honest character. He did not, like others, give his successor an *insidious support*—he did not recommend and afterwards abandon him—he did not lay schemes for supplanting, while he apparently supported him; he did not sit behind him in the House, while he directed the operations most likely to undermine him. As soon as, in the progress of the late measure, he found the sense of a considerable part of the Parliament against him, he did not hesitate to *take the hint*, and, like a constitutional Englishman, retire from his situation. If this action was to be applauded, the present Ministers retain their offices in a mean, selfish, and shabby manner. The one obeyed the sense of Parliament, the other treats it with contempt. He objected to the way in which the department of foreign Affairs was, and yet had in the list of his colleagues the same Noble Lord (Hawkesbury) whom he then disapproved of, whose incapacity it had been the object of Mr Pitt's speeches to depreciate, and who certainly ought to have resigned when unable to send any satisfactory answer to Mr Drake's correspondence. That Nobleman was alternately extolled and depreciated by the Gentleman opposite him, and by Mr Pitt in particular, though he since thought proper to take him as an associate. He also objected to the naval department, though conducted by Earl St Vincent, whom Mr Pitt once represented as a kind of tutelar deity, though he since substituted for him that gallant, able, and experienced *Seaman*, Admiral Lord Melville, who has gained such laurels in the Dutch and other expeditions. Thus had the Minister now displaced those six, whom he recommended before, and extolled to the skies, and took in others on whom he bestowed no praise. It seemed as if his new Colleagues had said to him—"Give us places, emoluments, dignities and ribbands, but for God's sake do not give us a character!" The House had lately said, that the coach *was drawn by the horses, not the harness;* but here the case was rather unfortunate, for the six new *nags* had not only to draw the carriage of the State, but also the other six old *cast off backs* beside it. This splendid project of the Minister's, this *armed Minerva* which was to spring out of the head of our political *Jupiter*, proved to be nothing more than a *ricketty bantling*, which, with all its parish nurses, could never be furnished with any thing like a supply of *bone*. Supposing the framers of the bill were to find their ideas realized, and that the number of men were actually raised by the parishes, what would be their surprise on finding themselves obliged to find six or seven thousand officers to head them? This was a case for which no provision had been made.

He was of opinion that a limitation of service offered to Regulars would in the first instance be productive of a more efficient force than the onerous tax on the parishes. The existence of liberty and a standing army were wholly inconsistent with each other. It was in the essence of political wisdom to suggest a *medium* between those difficulties. The people of this country looked with respect to their rulers. If their energies were not duly employed, it must be the fault of their rulers. In their submission there was nothing of slavery or clanship. They felt their duty, because they knew that the laws were equal, and that the lowest farmer in the country might look, under certain circumstances, to the succession of his son to the Great Seal of England. Such now was the state of society as to call for all the valour of the brave, and all the power and influence of the great and wealthy. With support on the part of the people, and such a coincidence of general sentiment, he lamented to find that so many Gentlemen should consider the defence of the country in a mere political point of view, and without any reference to constitutional principles.

Mr

Mr Pitt rose and replied to the arguments used against the measure in a constitutional point of view. The Hon. Gentleman who spoke last had truly stated the various motives which induced the people of this country to join in defence of the Constitution; but he had stated nothing new, and carried the principle too far. Under all the circumstances of Europe, it was looking with too much jealousy to a standing army to say that it never ought to be trusted with the defence of the country: that kind of force never could be meant to be entirely excluded, and the only question was to the degree in which it ought to be employed. Now the peculiar characteristic of the measure he proposed was, that it maintained the due proportions which ought to be preserved between all the different descriptions of force in the country. No warlike preparations could be carried on with vigour if Gentlemen were always to be looking, not to the means of resisting the enemy, but to the keeping up a certain balance between the militia and the regular army, by which the former was to be a check on the latter. An Hon. Member had gone back to the time of James II. to prove that this bill was unconstitutional, and contrary to the declaration of rights; but the sacred principle to which he wished to refer the House was not what he represented it; that principle was, that the keeping up a standing army *in time of peace*, without the consent of Parliament, was a violation of the constitution. But what had this principle to do with a measure which was dependent upon Parliament for its origin and continuance; which, by the amendment introduced this night, must be disembodied within six months after a peace, and which was liable to the mutiny law only while embodied.

With regard to what had been said respecting the formation of the present Administration, that was a subject on which it was not agreeable for him to speak. If, from a series of measures, the House thought it fit that a change of Administration should be made, upon what principle of reasoning was a new administration not allowed a fair trial? Why opposed upon a first measure without any reference to the principle of that measure. The opposition on this bill, he knew, was intended as a *hint* to him to resign, but he could assure the Hon. Gentlemen, that their hint was not yet *broad enough*, and he would not take it. He was confident the bill would pass, and if it was possible that it did not pass, he would not consider its failure as proceeding from any other motive than the dry consideration of the question.

The Right Hon. Gentleman then vindicated the changes which had been made in Administration. It would be absurd in him to argue, that Lord Melville was a better seaman than Lord St Vincent; but there was nothing ridiculous in his asserting that he would prove a better Lord of the Admiralty.—— The Noble Lord who was at the head of the foreign department had not been degraded as was contended, by being removed to the home department.—Such an insinuation, had it not come from a quarter which he could not suspect of such an intention, he should suppose was only meant to produce variance between those who had always acted together with cordiality.

Mr Fox took a general view of every thing advanced by the chief supporters of the bill. He observed the readiness which had been displayed by the new Minister to throw down the gauntlet and enter the lists of political contention. It was far from being his intention to contend for prowess with that Right Hon. Gentleman; but this he felt himself bound to say, in answer to some insinuation that had been thrown out, and in justice to himself, in justice to the Hon. Friends on the bench below him (Mess. Grenville, Windham, &c.) and in justice to what he believed to be the universal prevailing opinion among all thinking men throughout the country, that if ever there was a time at which more than another it was required that the passions of all men should be stifled, not irritated, that their minds and tempers should be reconciled, not thwarted and provoked; and in short, that the Government of the country should consist of a very strong and highly respected set of men, it was the present moment. The right of his Majesty to chuse his own Ministers, no person, he believed, entertained the least doubt of; but it was a maxim equally recognised in the constitutional practice of the country, that, whenever the House of Commons found that a Minister was either

ther weak and inefficient, or that he was corrupt and profligate, they had an undoubted right to express their disapprobation of his conduct; and that if his Majesty did not think proper immediately to displace him, yet that he should take the hint himself, and give in his resignation.

The Right Hon. Gentleman had acknowledged this more than in words—he had acknowledged it in action. Now he must observe that, notwithstanding the extraordinary talents of the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite him (Mr Pitt,) it must be confessed that the country has at present an inefficient Administration. To every accusation that was brought forward against the present Administration, the Right Hon. Gentleman seemed only to answer by a reference to himself: he seemed to be as much delighted with the vanity of his return into office, as he was at his first entry in his youthful days, and said with peculiar complacency to a Gentleman on the bench below him, "You must consider, Sir, that this is not the same as the late Administration." Some gentlemen were glad to find they had two strings to their bow, and as soon as one was cracked, they immediately seized the other. One officer immediately under the Minister had been changed, because he was a bad one. The head of the Admiralty (an old experienced Admiral) was changed, because he was a bad one, and not so capable of conducting maritime affairs as my Lord Melville; but there was another officer, for whose removal he could not so well account; he was in one office, which no doubt required ability to perform its duties; he was removed from that he could not fill, and was immediately put into another equally arduous. He was surprised to find that any set of gentlemen could possibly act in union without any system of cooperation either expressed or understood.

The Hon. Member then took a general view of the different provisions of the bill, observing particularly the new clause introduced to modify the measure at that advanced period. The confusion it would create in the country to have a sort of militia, as it was called, in time of peace returning to their homes for the most part of the year, he ridiculed in the severest manner. The old militiamen could be found, the Yorkshire in York, the Middlesex in Middlesex; but from the circumstance of many of these being raised by high bounties, and by the recruiting serjeant, it would be almost impossible to collect them together. There was no *locus focus* in the bill that could change a Kentishman into a Cornishman; and yet it was said that the Executive Government would regulate that part of the bill which says that they shall be supposed to be attached to a particular place or district, tho' undoubtedly they will be raised in very distant parts of the country.

Another advantage they hoped to gain by the bill was, the insisting on the men going into a particular battalion; there may be one battalion that has a great many in its first class willing to enter into the second, but that particular body may not want their services. There might be another of which the second class was destroyed by war, or a pestilential climate, and for that very reason the men in the first class will not enter. Thus the military resources of the country are cramped by the very measure which is intended to defend it. He hoped, however, from every thing that had been advanced from the most respectable persons for talent, fortune, and connections, but particularly by the landed interest, tho' even the minority should not be so great as was by some expected, yet that he should hear no more of the indecent declaration that he would not take the hint, where the measure was objected to by nearly one half of the representation of the empire.

After Mr Fox sat down, the House appeared to have completely made up their minds, and the question was very loudly called for. At half past four in the morning, the gallery was cleared.

For the motion	265
Against it	223
Majority	—42

Tuesday, June 19.

Mr Pitt moved the third reading of the Additional Defence Bill. After an uninteresting conversation relative to the introduction of Mr Pitt to Administration, and the personal imputations whichh is *quondam* friends alledged he had cast upon them for their present opposition to him, the bill was read a third time, passed, and ordered to the Lords.

Wednesday

Wednesday, June 20.

Sir *William Pulteney* moved the second reading of the Solway Firth Fishery Bill.

General *Gascoigne* opposed the bill, which he stated to be one of the most daring violations of private property ever attempted. A gentleman had by laudable industry acquired a considerable fortune, and purchased a part of the property formerly belonging to the Noble Family of Annandale, to which was attached the right of fishing in a mode which it was the object of this bill to take away. No indemnification was offered in the bill, and to add insult to injury, a clause was added, which would have the effect of making this gentleman pay a considerable share of the expence of passing this bill. The right he had alluded to had existed for centuries in the family of Annandale. An attempt was made to destroy the right in a bill which passed on the 5th of June, by a clause, but that attempt was not successful. He trusted that the House would pay more regard to private property, than to agree to such a bill as this. There was something absurd in the proceeding, and so unjust in the principle, that the very statement of the attempt made by the supporters of the bill, was sufficient for his purpose. They call the right pretended: If it was only a pretended right, why make an application to Parliament? Why not go before a Court of Justice to have their claims decided.

Mr Hurst thought much might be said on both sides, and wished that the merits of the bill might at least be discussed in a Committee.

Sir W. Pulteney contended for the necessity of the bill, on the score of the practice on the Tweed and the Annan.

Mr Creevy was of opinion, that if the fishery in question was exercised in a manner contrary to any pre-existing law of Scotland, the Court of Session alone was the only quarter to apply for redress, and not that House. He moved an amendment, that the bill be read a second time this day three months.

Mr Graham observed, that every person who had property on the Solway, situated to the eastward of that belonging to the petitioner against the bill, sustained much injury by the machinery used by that Gentleman, no salmon in this estuary could pass to the east.

The House then divided—For the amendment—Ayes, 74—Noes, 56—Majority against the bill, which is lost, 18.

The House then went into a Committee on the bill for the alteration of the corn laws. Mr Western stated the grounds on which the alterations were proposed. He said that since 1791, when the bounty was regulated, matters were greatly changed; that the charges on agriculture had prodigiously increased; that labour was one third dearer, and that the poor's rates which, in 1799, were 2,129,000l. in 1803 were 5,128,000l. The Committee, therefore, in their resolutions, recommended, that the bounty on the importation of grain and flour should be regulated by the average price in the twelve maritime counties of England, and the four maritime counties of Scotland.

Mr Paterson accounted for the advance in the price of wages by the high bounties given for the army and militia: that in the poor rates by the high price of provisions; and that of the high price of provisions by the war. Some other remedy, he thought, should be provided for all these, besides paying other countries for eating our corn.

After a short conversation, the resolutions were agreed to.

Mr Foster then rose to bring forward the

IRISH BUDGET;

previous to which he entered into a melancholy detail of the financial situation of Ireland.——In the year 1793 the public debt of Ireland stood at 2,400,000l.; in 1800 it was 25,000,000l.; on the 5th January 1804 it stood at 43,000,000l. and in the present year there had been added 9,500,000l. Again as to the Revenue:—In the year 1800, which preceded the Union, when Ireland owed 25,000,000l. the net produce of the revenue was 2,800,000l.

In the last year, while she owed 53,000,000l, the revenue was only 2,780,000l. making, on the average of the three last years, a decrease per annum of 16,000l.; so that after deducting the interest and charge of Ireland, something considerably less than 300,000l. would be left towards paying the quota of Ireland, which for the last year amounted to 4 millions; and from the

the present prospects, there was every reason to believe, that the produce of the Irish revenue for the present year would be a blank sheet of paper, not shewing one shilling towards the quota of Ireland, in the common expenditure of the Empire.

He appealed to the Irish Gentlemen, whether, instead of persevering in the ruinous system of borrowing in this country, the means of supplying, from year to year, the surplus of the expenditure over the revenue, it was not the fairest and most manly principle to look the mischief in the face, and boldly to meet the exigency, by raising at once additional taxes adequate to the public expenditure, in such a way, however, as not to distress the manufactures of the country, or to press painfully on the feelings of the middling and lower orders of the people, and at the same time to render the collection of the revenues in Ireland efficient, as they ought to be, but which it was well known they were not;—for an effectual reform in the collection of her revenue, and a retrenchment in the expences of her government, were the two great arrangements which were necessary to keep Ireland from sinking.

Not wishing to trespass further on the time of the Committee, he would now propose to state the increased Taxes he had in contemplation, viz.

	Per Ton	Being an increase on the present Duties of
French Wines,	L. 97 —	L. 22 0 0
Port Wine	65 —	20 0 0
Madeira	70 —	16 7 0
Rhenish	60 —	29 9 4
All other Wines	60 —	24 0 0

which, upon an average of the imports of the last seven years, would produce 100,000l.; or, according to those last year, 120,000l.; but he took it at the former sum. A tax on Malt of 9s. per barrel, which is only 1s. 5d. more than the present duty, and 8s. per barrel less than is paid in England, which he estimated to produce 63,750l.

The next was a tax on Teas. The present duties are, in Ireland, Black, per cent. 25l. all others 42l. 7s. He therefore proposed to double the present duty on both teas, which he estimated to produce 180,000l. The next was an additional tax on Tobacco, of 4d. per pound over the present duty of 1s. 1d. which, upon an average of the last three years, would produce 112,000l. The next was an equalization of the Sugar Duties, which had been omitted in the Budget of the last year, which, by adding 2s. 8d. per cwt. would produce on raw sugar 35,000l, and on refined 3,300l.

The next tax was a stamp duty upon Affidavits before Justices of Peace, relative to affairs of public charities and road presentments by grand juries, to be laid in the same manner as on bankers' notes, and not by composition, of which, however, the produce would not be very large.

The next tax was a stamp tax on registering Freeholds, which, though it might be considered a delicate subject, yet he did not see why it should not contribute to the public exigency, 3000l.

The next tax he would propose was a revival of the 6 per cent duties, formerly payable by retail importers in Ireland, and cheerfully paid for a long series of years without a murmur; and this he estimated at 8000l.

The next was a stamp duty upon Permits on the conveyance of Excise-able commodities from place to place, from 2d. to 1s. according to the value of the goods so conveyed: this would afford a good check upon the fraudulent use of permits, and be productive; but he did not estimate the sum.

The next was a regulation on the distilleries, by increasing the number of working days, by which a deal of home-made spirits would pay duty, which would otherwise elude it.

These were the whole of the taxes he had for the present to propose; but he had to add a measure of regulation, which would not only be productive to the revenue, but lay the foundation of another, which it was extremely desireable to establish, namely, an equalization between the current monies of the two countries: to this end he should propose that all the Irish duties, internal and external, be paid to their amount in British money, which he estimated at 200,000l. Taking in the whole together, he estimated the Produce by increased taxes at L. 853,000
By regulation 400,000

L. 1,253,000

After

After some further observations on the necessity of an early investigation of the joint accounts of the two countries, he concluded by moving his first resolution.

Mr Corry, and other Irish Members, expressed their approbation generally of the measures proposed, and the resolutions were agreed to.

Monday, June 23.

Lord A. Hamilton presented a petition from the Chamber of Commerce of Glasgow against the report of the Corn Committee.

The Secretary at War obtained leave for a bill to legalize the enlisting of subjects of foreign states as soldiers in his Majesty's service. He stated that the bill applied to the Hanoverians in the Isle of Wight. At present they amounted to 5000, but in the Committee he would propose to fill up the blank with 10,000, as recruits were daily arriving.

Mr Francis said, he should in a future stage take the sense of the House on the principle of employing foreign troops in this island, as it was in direct contradiction to the letter of the constitution.

The motion for receiving the report of the Scotch Additional Force Bill was opposed by Lord *A. Hamilton* and Mr *Kinnaird*, who observed that the machinery for recruiting by parish officers in England would not apply to Scotland, where no such officers existed. The heritors of parishes were the proprietors, and they would employ agents to whom a portion of the bounty would be allowed. These agents would not be satisfied with the profits of one parish, and would therefore become licensed crimps, by engaging to raise men for different parishes. The bill would besides have the operation of a land tax, which would be a breach of the union.

Mr Dundas defended the bill, and denied that it would have more the effect of a land tax than the militia, army of reserve, or quota men acts.—The report was then received.

Counsel were then heard against the Slave Trade Abolition bill; on their withdrawing, Mr Burton moved that evidence be heard at the bar, to which the *Chancellor of the Exchequer* moved an amendment, that the House proceed with the bill, without examining evidence or further hearing counsel. On a division, this amendment was carried, by a majority of 52 to 9.

Wednesday, June 27.

The corn export and import regulation bills were read a first time. The woollen manufacturer's penalty suspension bill, and the Scotch additional force bill, were passed.

Mr Sheridan called the attention of the House to a bill now pending for settling disputes between master calico printers and their journeymen. A petition had been presented from the latter, praying for redress of many severe grievances, was referred to a Committee, and the petitioners, who were all industrious and laborious men, had been at a very considerable expence in bringing evidence from the most distant corners of the kingdom to support their allegations. The Committee, after having sat some days, and examined several witnesses, suddenly adjourned, without coming to any resolution, and had since made no report to the House.

Mr H. Lascelles and *Mr Dent*, who were members of the Committee, stated that they had heard the evidence in support of the petition, and were unanimously of opinion that the allegations of the petition were wholly unsupported. The Committee adjourned for three weeks, and did not feel it necessary to make any report. The conversation ended with an order for a copy of the minutes of evidence before the Committee to be laid before the House.

In a Committee on his Majesty's message relative to the family of the late Lord Kilwarden, it was resolved, that an annuity of 1200l. British currency, be paid out of the Irish consolidated fund to Lady Kilwarden, during her life, and after her ladyship's demise, that the same annuity be continued to her family, viz. 800l. to John Lord Kilwarden during his natural life, and after his decease, to the person who shall next bear the title of Kilwarden during his life, and the remaining sum of 400l. a year to the two daughters of Lord Kilwarden, during their lives, 200l. to each, or the whole to the surviver. [Lady Kilwarden died on 30th July. See Deaths.]

Mr Wilberforce moved the third reading of the Slave Trade Abolition Bill. Sir Wm. Young opposed it, as did Mr Fuller, Mr Rose, Mr Addington, Mr Dent, and Mr W. Dickinson; the latter observed,

observed, that there was already a disposition to rebel among the negroes, and that the missionaries sent to convert them, had instilled into them such ideas of liberty, that, according to the text given to them, they were convinced that "all men should be equal; that the first should be last and the last first."

Mr Barham spoke in vindication of the Missionaries. He stated, that not fewer than 10,000 negroes had been converted in the island of Antigua, and their tempers and dispositions had been thereby rendered so much better, that they were entitled to an encreased value of 10l. He wished, however, that a clause should be introduced recognizing the principle of compensation to those who might suffer by the abolition.

Mr Pitt said, he would be extremely anxious to afford every degree of compensation, in all cases where a fair and proper claim could be made out, but to recognize generally the principle of it in the bill, would be to put the matter out of the hands of Parliament, without a proper investigation, which might be attended with dangerous consequences.

After a good deal of thread-bare argument on both sides, the House divided—For the bill 69, against it 33—majority 36. The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

Thursday, June 28.

A petition was presented from W. Armstrong and others, of Armagh county in Ireland, Jurymen on a trial for the murder of one Morris, stating, that their characters had been injured by Judge Fox objecting to their verdict of "Not Guilty," and saying that they were people not worthy of belief upon their oaths. The petition concluded with praying that Parliament would interfere, in order to justify their conduct by the evidence adduced upon the trial alluded to. The petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Monday, July 2.

Mr Rose presented a petition from the trustees of the British Museum, praying a grant of *sixteen thousand pounds* towards erecting buildings for the reception of the curiosities which had been brought from Egypt by the British army.

This produced a conversation of some length between Sir John Sinclair, Mr Windham, Mr Pitt, Mr Sheridan and Dr Lawrence; after which the petition was ordered to lie on the table, and Mr Pitt moved for the plan and estimate for the intended addition and improvement of the Museum to be laid before the House.

ADDITION TO THE CIVIL LIST, AND PAYMENT OF ARREARS.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of Supply,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer called the attention of the Committee to the state of the Civil List. There was now a debt of about 590,000l. existing; much of that debt had arisen out of the circumstances of the war, much of it arose from the internal state of the country, and a very considerable portion of it proceeded from expences of stationary, printing, and a variety of other articles, with which the civil list should not in justice be chargeable. Many of those articles, among which were law charges, and the expence of maintaining the police, he wished to transfer, and to provide by a separate estimate, amounting in the whole to about 135,000l. The contingencies of the Secretaries of States offices, the additional expence of messengers, and the item in accounts, denominated extra extraordinaries, all contributed, in a very considerable degree, to the creation of the arrears.

It was his intention to move the House, that a sum sufficient to liquidate the whole debt should be granted to his Majesty; and that a grant of some reasonable addition should also be given towards maintaining that particular branch of the Civil List, known by the name of the King's Household. That such reasonable addition was extremely necessary, he was persuaded every Gentleman would admit, who recollected the great rise which had taken place in all the articles of life within the last 20 years, which may be fairly calculated at nearly 60 per cent. It was within the knowledge of the House that her Majesty received 58,000l. out of which the female branches of the Royal Family received, as they came to have separate establishments, 4000l. a-year each. He would propose a further addition to that of 2000l. with the design that the allowance of the Princesses should be increased to 6000l.

to

to each of them. The whole amount of the Civil List at present was 975,000l. but which was reduced by the payment of fees to 921,000l. making an annual deficiency of 54,000l. It was his intention to pay the existing debt, and grant an annual addition to it of 60,000l. He concluded with moving that a sum not exceeding 591,813l. 3s. 10½d. should be granted to his Majesty, for the payment of the debt of the Civil List.

Mr Bankes said, that it was manifest, from the report made in 1802, that the salutary provisions of the bill brought in by the late Mr Burke in 1782 had been totally disregarded. Upon an average of sixteen years, from the passing of that bill, the annual deficiency amounted to about 80,400l. but in the course of the last two years it was nearly trebled. He objected to various items in the accounts, particularly to the sums charged under the heads Pensions to Foreign Ministers, and Conventions, which had increased from 8000l. to 13,000l. in the course of two years, within which time he was not aware that any were signed. He also objected to the increase of 77,000l. in the expences of the offices of the Secretaries of State. But the item of all others to which he had the most serious objection, was the sum of 16,000l. which had been advanced to the Duke of Clarence, upon condition of being repaid by quarterly instalments of 750l. It appeared by the documents before the House, that no more than 7000l. had been repaid in the manner proposed. He did not approve of this clandestine and indirect mode of supplying the wants of any of the branches of the Royal Family.

Mr Pitt said, that he had been in office shortly after the passing of Mr Burke's bill, and it was within his knowledge that for the first six years the expences were kept nearly within their due bounds; and if that had not been done lately, it was not from any want of putting the provisions of that bill into execution, but from unavoidable causes.

Mr Addington perfectly coincided with the Right Hon. Gentleman in his proposition for a permanent increase of the Civil List Establishment to the extent of 60,000l. and he thought it right to remark, that it was an example of his moderation. He likewise approved of the expedient to avoid all future arrears that would not be the subject of investigation in that House.

Sir Francis Burdett considered the present a subject of extreme delicacy, and which demanded the peculiar vigilance of a British House of Commons; and he could not avoid thinking it was proposed at the most inauspicious moment. The Hon. Gentleman (Mr Pitt) deemed the measures to be urgent because of the increased expences of subsistence which was even felt in the imperial seat; this was assigned as a reason for imposing heavier burthens on the people. From such arguments he should deduce a contrary conclusion; the new difficulties in the maintainance of life supplied the motive for the utmost parsimony in the public establishments, that the nation at large might be as much as possible relieved under the present weight by which it was oppressed. The most extraordinary language was held in regard to Mr Burke's Bill; it was said it was impossible to pay obedience to that law. If the Legislature did not pay respect to its own ordinances, how could it be expected they would be observed out of doors? Much better would it be to repeal the law, than to set such an example of the defiance of public institutions.

The question was put and agreed to without a division.

Mr Huskisson moved that the sum of 312,000l. be granted to his Majesty for the use of the Commissioners of the Navy, which was agreed to. This was followed by numerous other motions, also agreed to, for small amounts to be granted to his Majesty, for particular services, the largest of which was for 18,000l. for the forts on the coast of Africa.

Tuesday, July 3.

A person from the British Museum presented the plan and estimate of the expence of the buildings proposed to be erected.

Mr Rose, in order to obviate some of the complaints made by Gentlemen, relative to the exclusion of the public from the Museum, moved for copies of the orders of the trustees relative to the admission of strangers. He added, that the trustees were not actuated by any principle of exclusion, as three days a-week were

were allotted for the reception of 75 strangers, and that the other days were devoted to indulging the curiosity of private parties. The Hon. Member's motion was agreed to.

On the motion for the House going into a committee on the Foreigne 's Enlistment Bill, a short conversation arose between Mr Francis and the Secretary at War. The former Gentleman maintained that the bill ought not to pass as a matter of course; that the very idea of 10,000 foreigners being employed for the defence of this island was a subject of great delicacy; neither was there any assurance that the measure of enlisting them had been adopted by and with the advice of the Privy Council; men were wanted to supply the late deficiences in India, and he thought foreign troops much more proper at the present moment, for that service, than British.

The Secretary at War represented the absurdity of sending foreign troops to India, as they would inevitably be disbanded there on the termination of the war.—The Bill then passed the Committee.

Lord A. Hamilton presented a petition from the Deacon Convener, and remanent members of the Trades House of the city of Glasgow against any alteration in the Corn Laws.—Laid on the table.

On the motion of Mr Western, the House resolved into a Committee on the Corn Regulation Bill.

On the clause, allowing the rate at which barley shall be exported, a long debate ensued. The Bill specified, that it should be exported when at 28s. a quarter; but Mr Foster thought it should be exported only when at 34s. and Mr Paterson was convinced that it ought not to be exported unless it was at 34s. The gallery was cleared for a division on the point, whether 28s. or 34s. should be agreed to, but no division took place, and the rate mentioned in the Bill was allowed to stand of course.

The other clauses having undergone great investigation and discussion, the bill was ordered to be reported.

Wednesday, July 4.

Mr Foster brought in a bill continuing the prohibition against the importation of malt into Ireland, and repealing the act prohibiting the use of meal or barley in the distillation of spirits in Ireland; and a bill allowing the circulation of notes under 20s. in Ireland.

Thursday, July 5.

Several bills were brought up, and read a first time. Thes bills were, a bill continuing the act of the 27th of the King, for the better preserving and securing the peace in the counties at large in Ireland; a bill allowing the Quartermaster-General, the Master-General of the Ordnance, the Adjutant-General, and Barrackmaster General, to send and receive letters and packets postage free; the Hackney Coach bill; the Property Act Commissioners bill; the new Stamp Duties bill; the Jamaica Free Port bill; and the Civil List bill.

The bill for the relief of London Incumbents, and the Foreign Enlistment bill, were read a third time, and passed.

Saturday, July 7.

Mr Pitt presented the following message from the King, which was ordered to be referred to a Committee of Supply:—

"His Majesty, relying on the experienced zeal and affection of his faithful Commons, and considering that it may be of the utmost importance to provide for such emergencies as may arise, is desirous that this House will enable him to take such measures as may be necessary to disappoint or defeat any enterprize or design of his enemies, and as the exigencies of affairs may require."

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means, for granting the sum of 800,000l. to his Majesty by way of Lottery, was agreed to, and a bill ordered.

Mr Western moved the third reading of the Corn bill. Colonel Stanley objected to the bill, on the ground that it would be injurious to the county of Lancaster; and contended that the average prices should be taken from the districts, and not from the county at large. Mr Western was of a different opinion, and observed that the bill could not be injurious to Lancashire, as the average price of corn was lower in that county in 1798 and 1799 than in other parts of the country. Mr Jeffrey was apprehensive that the importation average price was fixed so high, that it would prevent importation, while the measure would be extremely ad-

advantageous to the landed interest. Mr Fellows defended the landed interest from any interested motives, as the object of the bill was to fix an equitable and uniform average price of corn. Mr Paterson opposed the bill; and Mr Foster and Mr Alexander defended it—The bill was then read a third time, passed, and ordered to the Lords.

Monday, July 9.

Lord Marsham, from the Middlesex Election Committee, reported, that Sir Francis Burdett, Bart. was not duly elected a Knight of the Shire to serve in the present Parliament for the county of Middlesex; that William Mainwaring, Esq. ought to have been returned, but that he had been guilty of certain acts of treating, &c.; that the election was void with regard to Sir Francis Burdett, and that neither of the petitions appeared to the Committee to be frivolous or vexatious. On the motion of Lord Marsham, a new writ was ordered for a Knight of the Shire to serve for the county of Middlesex.

Lord Marsham also reported, that on the 13th, 14th, and 15th days of the poll, the Sheriffs, Robert Albion Cox, and Sir Wm. Rawlins, Knight, when there was a majority of votes in favour of William Mainwaring, Esq. had, on the first of these days, wilfully, knowingly, and corruptly, given the majority to Sir F. Burdett, by allowing 300 persons to vote as proprietors of the Good Intent Mill, in the parish of Isleworth, and afterwards refused to allow others in similar circumstances to vote for William Mainwaring, Esq. thereby tending to the propagation of corruption, contrary to their duty as returning officers. The report was ordered to be printed.

At the Middlesex election 1802, the numbers for each Candidate on the close of the poll were—for Sir Francis Burdett 3207; and for Mr Mainwaring 2937.

Sir Francis Burdett objected to 2367 of Mr Mainwaring's votes, for various causes, amounting to about 15 in number; and Mr Mainwaring objected to 2105 of Sir Francis Burdett's votes.

Mr Mainwaring, for the purpose of bringing the petition to as early a termination as possible, waved all his objections to Sir Francis Burdett's votes, except that for non-assessment to the land-tax, and he confined this objection to such of Sir Francis Burdett's voters, as were not assessed either in their own names or in the names of their tenants. Upon this objection Mr Mainwaring disqualified 1306 out of 1508 votes, leaving the numbers for Sir Francis Burdett, 1901.

Upon the scrutiny of Mr Mainwaring's votes, Sir F. Burdett insisted upon all his original objections, and struck off 927 of Mr Mainwaring's votes, which left Mr Mainwaring a considerable majority of good votes.

Mr Mainwaring abandoned the charges of bribery and treating against Sir Francis Burdett, but the latter gave evidence of treating against Mr Mainwaring, which the Committee found proven.

In a committee of Supply, Mr Pitt moved, "That his Majesty's Message be read," which being done, he moved, "That a Vote of Credit be granted to his Majesty for 2,500,000l. for any exigencies which may arise in the course of the year, beyond the estimates already voted;" this was nothing more than the usual Vote of Credit at the conclusion of every session, and was to meet any exigencies not provided for by the Ways and Means; but there were other objects also, the expence of which had already occurred, tho' they had not been provided for; for instance, exceedings on the expences for volunteers called out this year, about 100,000l. volunters called out for exercise ten days, 160,000 men, 20,000l. officers attached to volunteer corps, 20 or 30,000l. arrears of the civil list paid off, 600,000l. which with some other smaller items, would leave about 1,400,000l. or 1,500,000l applicable to unforeseen contigencies.—The motion was agreed to.

Mr Foster moved a vote of credit to the same purposes for Ireland, to the amount of 300,000l.—Agreed to.

Mr Pitt then moved that 8000l. be granted to the British Museum, 25,000l. to the Sierra Leone Company, 591,851l. to discharge the arrears of the civil list, and various sums for services which had heretofore been paid out of the civil list.

Mr Huskisson moved, that a Stamp Tax of 5s. should be laid on every promissory, or other note, of the Royal Bank of Scotland, and of the British Linen Company, payable to bearer on demand, which may within three years of the date thereof be re-issued, and which may amount to and not exceed 100l.

That

That 3l. 3s. should be paid on every Certificate to be taken out by persons who shall use any dog, gun, net, or other engine, for the taking or destruction of Game. Also that every Packet, Box, Bottle, or other inclosure, containing any Medicine, or Medicament, of the value of , shall be subject to a Stamp Tax of 1½d.

These resolutions were agreed to.

SCOTCH MALT.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, adverting to a motion of which an Hon. Baronet (Sir John Sinclair) had given notice relative to an abatement in the duty on malt made from big and beer in Scotland, expressed a wish that the Honourable Gentleman, who appeared in his place as the friend of that Hon. Baronet, would consent to postpone this subject until the next Session of Parliament. The ground upon which the Hon. Baronet rested his intended motion, was the evidence of a respectable gentleman before the Corn Committee. This evidence stated, that the produce of big and beer was so much inferior to that of Barley, and the malt made from it was also so inferior, that it was unjust to subject both to an equal tax. Surely, according to this statement, some reduction ought to take place; but the degree of that reduction could not be fixed upon, until the degree of difference should be precisely ascertained. This investigation required time, in order that the Commissioners of the Excise in Scotland should attend to it, and that the House should not come to a determination on the allegation of any individual, however respectable. Under these circumstances, the Right Hon. Gentleman trusted that no objection would be made to the delay required, particularly under this express understanding, that Government should, in the interim, direct their attention to the subject.

Mr Fergusson assented to the postponement requested by the Right Hon. Gentleman.

Sir William Erskine expressed an anxious wish that a subject of so much importance to the North of Scotland would be attended to.

Mr Foster, in a Committee, moved that the Chairman should be instructed to apply to the House for leave to bring in a bill to permit spirits distilled in Ireland to be warehoused for exportation, and also to regulate the exportation of such spirits as shall not be warehoused.

Tuesday, July 10.

LOYALTY LOAN.

The House resolved itself into a Committee on the Loyalty Loan Act.

Mr Pitt stated, that the money borrowed under this loan, in 1797, could be required upon a notice of three months, but the period had been afterwards extended to six. The period for its final payment would be on the 10th October and 5th April. The House was bound to act up to the original bargain, and it was of little consequence, whether the payment was made on the 10th October or the 5th April, because there might be a great fluctuation in the price of Stock at those periods. What he meant to propose was, that all the subscribers who shall wish to be paid on the 10th October, shall receive 100l. of a new stock, not to be transferable till the 5th April, and it would be computed from the ten average days preceding that period. No gain or loss would thus accrue to the public; but the individual would have the fair benefit of the then price of the funds. In order, also, to guard against any depression of stocks, an option was intended to be given to the Lords of the Treasury to determine in what stock these investments should be made. The 5 per cents. he knew, was not so available a Stock, but a quarter of a year's interest would be added, which would give the subscribers a considerable facility in the market. After expatiating on the advantages this arrangement held out, he concluded by moving resolutions conformable to his statement.

INDIA BUDGET.

The House resolved into a committee on the East India Company's Accounts.

Lord Castlereagh laid before the committee the various branches of expenditure which had taken place under the three Presidencies of Fort St George, Bengal, and Bombay. His Lordship prefaced a very perspicuous statement, by stating that the debt of the Company had considerably increased in India, but no surprize would thereby be excited,

ted, when it was recollected that this increase was peculiarly attributable to the Mahratta war. The war in Europe, his Lordship stated, began in March 1803, and the intelligence reached India in the following September; the accounts before the Committee, however, contained several items of debt incurred, in consequence of an expectation of hostilities on the part of the Mahrattas, which were unavoidable in such circumstances. The charges of the Mahratta war affected five months of the year 1803, and as he did not intend at present to enter into any detail of the causes of that war, he should state that the expences attending those five months were very considerable. Gentlemen would therefore bear in mind, that the increase of debt did not arise from any imprudence on the part of the Company, but entirely from the causes to which he had alluded.

His Lordship then entered into a comprehensive statement of the Company's affairs, under the usual heads, concluding with the following

General Comparison of Debts and Assets.

Increase of Debts in India		L.1,214,842
Increase of Debts at home		14,979
Total increase of Debts		1,229,821
Increase of Assets in India	L.557,240	
Increase of Assets at Home	1,728,143	
	L.2,285,383	
Deduct net Decrease of Balance at China and St Helena -	325,988	
Net increase of Assets		1,959,395
The net improvement of the year in this view appears to be - -		729,574
From this sum should be deducted the amount of the cargoes arrived in India previous to the 30th April 1803, and included in the Quick Stocks there, which formed part of the cargoes afloat outward, in the Assets at home		417,000
Balance in favour of the Company - -		L.312,574

which may be considered as still liable to farther adjustment, when the final arrangement of the claims of the Company upon Government, as stated in the Home Assets, shall be completed.

His Lordship expatiated at great length on this statement, and concluded by moving his first resolution.

Lord Arch. Hamilton, *Mr Johnstone*, and *Mr Francis*, observed, that various promises had been held out, of the Company being able to pay its debt from year to year, but that these had never been realised. Lord Castlereagh explained; and after some further conversation, his resolutions were put and carried.

Wednesday, July 11.

STAMP DUTIES.

The House went into a Committee on the Stamp Duties Bill.

Mr Sheridan objected that the old duties were not stated in the schedule, together with the new items of the same description. Without such a view, it was impossible to ascertain the effect of every distinct increase, or the amount of the whole. This duty was estimated at 800,000l. by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, including an *ad valorem* stamp on conveyances, which would yield 300,000l. This stamp was omitted by the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, who yet took credit for a produce of L.750,000l. The worst effect of this tax would be that courts of justice would be inaccessible. On this principle, it had been said by one of the most acute men of this country, Mr Horne Tooke, and the observation was worthy of note,—"The Courts of Justice are open to every man in this country; and so is the London Tavern; but if one cannot afford the expence, it is as useless for him to look for justice in the one, as for the means of satisfying his hunger in the other." (*A Laugh.*) Of the whole sum of 750,000l. to be raised by the increase of stamp duties, 500,000l. would be on law proceedings.—In the Chancery proceedings the addition would be 25 per cent. This was virtually selling justice. It was a breach of the principle of Magna Charta, *nulli vendere justitiam*, by which equal justice was to have been secured to the rich and the poor. The money levied by the Government for these stamps would be exactly

ment

similar to that exacted by the Crown in the former instance, and prohibited by Magna Charta. The poorer classes would be entirely excluded from Court by the vast expences superadded to the process. He condemned the increase of duty on the policies for life insurance; persons sacrificing a part of their present income to secure a provision to their surviving relatives, should not be so burthened. He was the more surprised that the Right Hon. Gentleman imposed this burthen, as in his own income tax, he allowed the sums paid for life insurances to be deducted from the income. He concluded with moving, that the Committee be instructed that they had power to divide the bill into two bills.

Mr Pitt said, that the whole amount on law proceedings, instead of being 500,000l. as was stated, would be no more than fifty or sixty thousand pounds. He had also inquired into the complaint made by the Hon. and Learned Gentleman opposite (Dr Lawrence.) Of the increase in the civil law courts, the alterations which would have made what was 73l. before 1100l. was an error, tho' a very natural one, which requiredonly to be pointed out in order to be corrected. But he had learned, that according to the legal limit of 92 words to a sheet, the tax must fall extremely heavy on those courts, where it was sometimes necessary to commence a suit with a proceeding of 400 folios (*a laugh;*) tho' he thought that those who indulged in the luxury of such proceedings should pay something, he did not think that they should be charged to the full extent. The measure was opposed on the ground that it was a violation of Magna Charta. He should be alarmed at being a party to a measure charged with being so unconstitutional, if it had not been first instituted in the reign of King William, a period of our history not unfavourable to the Constitution, and altered several times since in a proportion which the present alterations did not exceed. He allowed that in some instances law proceedings should be entirely free of expence; he knew not why in general legal proceedings should be untaxed more than a variety of other transactions by which individuals are equally affected. Besides, it was to be recollected, that the poor had the advantage in this country of being enabled to sue *in forma pauperis* (*a laugh from the Gentlemen of the Bar.*)

Dr Lawrence said, the Rt. Hon. Gent. had the advantage of combining with his other great talents a high degree of wit, which was seldom found in union with them. These long proceedings in the civil law Courts, on which the Right Hon. Gentleman was so witty, took place only in matrimonial cases, from which there was reason to hope the Right Hon. Gentleman would never incur the burthen (*a laugh.*) It was complained of as a hardship, that in Chancery proceedings the additional stamps would amount to 25l. per cent. In the ecclesiastical court they would amount to 50l. per cent. A great deal had been said of the benefit the poor had in being able to sue *in forma pauperis*: it was fit the House should know that this advantage was enjoyed only by those who could swear themselves not worth 5l. after the payment of their just debts. The gratuitous assistance of the bar was frequently given to persons not so entirely poor; but, if Government imposed this burthen upon them, they would be entirely debarred from justice. He wished the Judges had a power to give relief from stamps in such cases. As to the idea of costs falling on the person in the wrong, it should be recollected, that there were many cases, in which each individual paid his own costs; and that when there was no object in litigation but the decision of an important point. In testamentary cases this burthen would fall so heavy, that wills of small properties would not be worth establishing, and the falsification of wills would be encouraged by the barriers which were opposed to inquiry and conviction. In the Admiralty Court also this burthen would be severely felt by those brave seamen, to whom the bounty of his Majesty was so much diminished by this charge, and by foreign merchants, who would do much injury to the reputation of British justice, when the litigation of their right was placed at double the existing expence, already too great.

Sir William Pulteney and *Mr Serjeant Best* objected to the principle of the Bill,—But the resolutions were agreed to in the Committee.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH RACES.

July 23. The Races commenced this day, when the City's Purse of 50l. was won with ease at two heats by Mr Oswald of Auchencruive's horse, beating four others. One of the horses fell, and broke both his fore legs.—He was immediately killed.

24. His Majesty's Purse of one hundred Guineas was won easily by Lord Belhaven's horse Brandon, beating three others, who all drew the second heat.

25. The Noblemen and Gentlemen's Fifty Guineas was won by Lord Belhaven's bay filly ——, beating three others.

26. The Hunters' Purse of Fifty Guineas was won by Mr Robertson of Ladykirk's horse Pegasus, beating one other.

27. The Ladies' Purse of Fifty Guineas was won by Lord Belhaven's Brandon, beating three others.

28. There was only a hack race, and on the whole the week afforded little sport.

SAILING MATCH.

A sailing match at Leith, under the patronage of the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Dalkeith, Sir James St Clair Erskine, &c. took place on the 25th July; the day was extremely favourable, it blowing a steady breeze from the eastward, and the sky clear.

Seven boats started, two belonging to Newhaven, and five to Fisherrow and Prestonpans. None were allowed to compete, but such as had volunteered their boats and personal service for defence of the coast.

At half past one the seven boats started from the end of the pier of Leith, and proceeded to sail round the Red Buoy on Craig Waugh, a sunk rock in Fisherrow Bay, nearly abreast of Prestonpans.

The wind being directly a-head, the first stretch carried them close in with Inchkeith; the following tack they stood well into Fisherrow Bay, and after several tacks the first boat succeeded in weathering the buoy, when she immediately bore up before the wind, for the boat stationed off the harbour of Leith, which was the winning post. She was followed by the second, at a small distance astern. All the others were a good way behind, by not keeping so well to windward in all the different tacks.

The race was not over till a quarter past four o'clock, when the prize of thirty guineas was immediately paid to the first boat, which belonged to Fisherrow: and five guineas were given to the second, which belonged to Newhaven.

The whole was under the direction of Captain Milne of the Royal Navy, and afforded much pleasure to those interested.

The Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Dalkeith, Sir James St Clair Erskine, &c. were in Admiral Vashon's barge, accompanied by the Admiral himself, Captains Milne, Nash, and Brodie, of the Royal Navy. A great number of pleasure boats were also out, which heightened the beauty of the scene.

Prices of Grain per quarter, Corn Exchange, London.

1804.	Wheat.		Barley		Oats.		Pease.	
	s.	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*
June 4.	50	55	21	26	22	27	34	37
11.	54	57	21	26	24	29	34	40
18.	54	58	20	25	22	27	34	39
25.	54	58	20	25	20	25	35	40
July 2.	55	59	22	27	19	25	34	38
9.	57	62	25	29	21	26	34	40
16.	60	67	25	31	20	25	37	40
23.	60	68	26	32	21	25	40	45
30.	62	68	27	32	21	26	40	45
Aug. 6.	67	72	28	32	21	25	40	44
13.	70	74	30	35	22	27	40	46
20.	74	80	36	41	24	29	40	46
28.	68	74	32	37	24	29	40	45

Note.—The rise in price about the middle of July is attributed to the agitation of the new Corn Bill in Parliament, by which exportation is allowed when wheat is at 48s. Barley at 28s. Oats at 16s. and importation allowed when wheat is at 56s. Barley 31s. and Oats at 18s—though this Bill does not operate till the 15th November.—The wet weather in August occasioned the after rise; but both may be referred to a spirit of speculation, as a considerable fall took place on the 28th, owing to a change of weather highly favourable for housing the corns. The harvest over the whole Kingdom promises abundance, and on the continent there is an unusually large produce.

Prices of Grain at Haddington.

1804.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Peafe.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Aug. 3.	31 0	22 0	23 0	19 0
10.	32 6	22 6	22 6	18 6
17.	35 6	26 6	22 6	22 0
24.	37 0	28 0	23 0	20 6

Prices

Prices of Oat Meal in Edinburgh Market, per Peck.

Aug. 16. 16½d.—*Aug.* 21. & 28. 17d.

The price remained at 16d. for several months preceding. The rise is attributed to damage supposed to be done to the crop by the heavy rains in the two first weeks of August.

The Price of Pease and Barley Meal has continued at 10d. 11d. and 1s. per peck all this year.

CIVIL PROMOTIONS.

The Marquis of Blandford (son of the Duke of Marlborough,) is appointed a Lord of the Treasury, vice the Hon. Henry Wellesley.

Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. is appointed a Lord of the Admiralty, vice Sir H. B. Neale.

The Right Hon. John Foster is appointed first Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer in Ireland.

The Hon. William Elliot is appointed under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Archibald Moore, Esq. is appointed vice Lieutenant of the county of Bute.

Allan Maconochie Esq. (Lord Meadowbank) is appointed one of the Lords Commissioners of Justiciary, in room of Lord Methven, resigned.

Colin Mackenzie, Esq. writer to the Signet, is appointed one of the ordinary Clerks of Session, in room of Alexander Menzies, Esq. deceased.

Mr Thomas Wingate, writer in Stirling, is appointed Keeper of the Register of Sasines, &c. for the counties of Stirling and Clackmannan, and Stewartry of Monteith, in room of William M'Killop deceased.

The Rev. Alexander Fleming is elected Minister of Nielston by the parishioners, Mr Spiers of Elderslie, the patron, having given them their choice.

The Earl of Lauderdale has presented the Rev. John Fleming at Cairnton, to the church of Collington, vacant by the death of Dr John Walker.

The Earl of Fife has presented the Rev. William Stronach, New Machar, to the church of Marnoch:—the Rev. Alexander Simpson, Old Machar, to the church of New Machar:—And the Rev. Alexander Walker to be second Minister of Old Machar.

Sir Alexander Kinloch of Gilmerton, has presented Mr William Ritchie preacher to the church of Athelstonford, vacant by the death of Mr Goldie.

MILITARY PROMOTIONS.

Lieut.-Gen. Simon Fraser is appointed second in command in Scotland, vice Gen. Vyse, appointed to the Yorkshire district.

General George Hewit to be Barrack Master General, vice General Delancy, resigned.

Col. Wm. Dickson, 42d regiment, Col. Kerr, Col. Alexander Dirom, Colonel Gordon Cuming, Col. Samuel Graham, 27th foot, Col. James Hay, and Col. H. Montresor, 18th foot, are appointed Brigadier Generals on the Staff of Great Britain.

The Earl of Ancrum is appointed Aid-de-Camp to his Royal Highness the Duke of York.

Lieut.-Gen. Alexander Campbell is appointed Colonel of the 13th regiment of foot, vice General Ainslie, deceased.

Lieut.-Gen. James Stewart to be Col. of the 1st Royal Garrison Battalion, vice Edmeston deceased.

Lieut.-Gen. the Hon. Francis Needham to be Col. of the 5th Royal Garrison Battalion, vice Horneck deceased.

Major General Edwin Hewgill to be Lieut.-Governor of the Scilly Islands, vice General Ainslie, deceased.

Major General Donald M'Donald, 55th foot, is appointed Lieut.-Governor of Fort William, vice Lord Forbes deceased.

MARRIAGES.

July 19. At London, John Wentworth Loring, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy, to Miss Anna Patten, daughter of Vice Admiral Philip Patten, one of the Lords of the Admiralty.

—. At London, the Rev. Wm. Beresford, to Lady Anne Bennet, daughter of the Earl of Tankerville.

27. At Croydon, Joseph Reid, Esq. of Old Broad Street, to Miss Caldcleugh, daughter of Alexander Caldcleugh, Esq.

30. At Greenock, Mr Walter Turbet, writer, to Miss Martin, only daughter of the late Captain Daniel Martin.

31. At Edinburgh, the Rev. Mr George Wright, Minister of Markinch, to Miss Armstrong, daughter of Mr Francis Armstrong merchant in Edinburgh, deceast.

Aug. 1. At Restalrig, Captain James Coutts Crawford, of the Royal Navy, to Miss Anne Duncan, eldest daughter of

of Alexander Duncan, Esq. writer to the signet.

Aug. 1. At Ayr, the Rev. J. Campbell Minister of Tarbolton, to Miss Elizabeth Murkland.

—. At Darlington, Lieut. James Agnew, of the 65th regiment, grandson of Gen. Agnew, to Miss Bowes, daughter of Thomas Bowes, Esq. of Darlington.

2. At Bourtreehill, Ayrshire, Robert Robertson, Esq. younger of Prenderguest, to Miss Glasgow, daughter of Robt. Glasgow, Esq. of Mountgreenan.

—. At ——, Charles Barclay, Esq. of Clapham, to Miss Kett, daughter of Thomas Kett, Esq. of Norwich.

—. At Titchfield, Rear Admiral J. C. Purves, to Mrs William Dickson, only daughter and heiress of the late Admiral Sir Archibald Dickson, Bart.

—. At London, Lieut. Robertson of the Hon. East India Company's service, to Miss Sarah Cockerell.

—. At London, John Adams, Esq. of the Tax-office, to Miss F. M. Newton.

7. At Nottingham, John Hadden, Esq. to Miss Innes, youngest daughter of the late Alexander Innes of Cowie, Esq. Kincardineshire.

—. At Leith, Mr John Ledingham, merchant, to Miss Christian Coldstream, daughter of the late Mr Alexander Coldstream, Crief.

—. At London, the Hon. Charles Stewart, second son of the Earl of Londonderry, to Lady Catharine Bligh, sister of the Earl of Darnley.

11. At Edinburgh, Alexander Mackenzie Shaw, Esq. of Muirtown, to Miss Mary Laing, daughter of the late Robert Laing of Strynzie, Esq.

13. At Smithy Croft, near Hamilton, James Reddie, Esq. Advocate, one of the city clerks of Glasgow, to Miss Charlotte Marion Campbell, daughter of the late James Campbell, Esq. Glasgow.

—. At Greenock, William Laing, Esq. merchant, to Miss M'Gregor.

—. At Irvine, Lieutenant Col. Cuningham of Thornton, to Miss Peebles, only daughter of Major Peebles late of the 42d regiment.

14 At Edinburgh, Brig.-Gen. Samuel Graham, 27th foot, to Miss Ferrier, eldest daughter of James Ferrier, Esq. one of the Principal Clerks of Session.

—. At Mossburnford, William Elliot of Harwood, Esq. to Miss Eleanor Rutherford, daughter of John Rutherford of Mossburnford, Esq.

BIRTHS.

July 6. At Norwich, Mrs Bennet of the Theatre, Norwich, of two boys and a girl, all doing well.

21. At Blair, Ayrshire, the Lady of William Blair of Blair, Esq. a son.

—. At Longstratton in Norfolk, the wife of —— Wilson, three daughters, all doing well, the father's age is 60, and the mother's 40.

29. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Henry Veitch, Esq. Commissioner of Customs, a son.

—. At Donavourd, the Lady of A. M'Farlane of Blairnairn, Esq. a son.

—. At Battersea, the Lady of Henry Thornton, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

—. At London, the Lady of Thomas Blair, Esq. of Welbeck Street, a son.

—. At Clifton, the Lady of Captain Ross of the Royal Navy, a daughter.

—. At Wolford Lodge, the Lady of Lieutenant General Simcoe, a daughter.

—. At Jersey, the Lady of Lieut. Col. Johnstone, 58th regiment, a son.

Aug. 3. At Montrose, Mrs Macpherson of Invereshie, a son.

4. At Gilmerton, the Lady of Sir Alexander Kinloch, Bart. a daughter.

—. At Langley Park, Mrs Cruickshank, a daughter.

11. At Harden, Mrs Scott of Harden, a son.

13. At Bignor Park, Sussex, the Lady of —— Frazer, Esq. a son and heir.

—. At ——, Mrs Dawson, Tofts, a daughter.

17. At Coltness, Lanarkshire, Mrs Cailander of Craigforth, a son.

DEATHS.

Feb. In Bengal, aged 23, Mr Hugh Smollet Telfer.

April 30. At Port Royal, Jamaica, of the yellow fever, aged 19, Lieutenant James Duncan Robertson of the Royal Artillery.

May 11. At Demerary, aged 23, Mr William Boyd, son of Thomas Boyd, Esq. Kilmarnock plantation, Jamaica.

15. At Hopewell, Jamaica, Mrs Murray, relict of John Murray of Philiphaugh, Esq.

17. At Donavesingen, in Germany, of an apoplexy, aged 33, his Serene Highness Charles Joachim reigning Prince of Furstemberg.—He is succeeded by his nephew

nephew Charles Egon, only eight years of age.

May 29. At Revel, in Russia, of a contagious ship fever, Captain J. Millar of the Russian Navy. He was bred in the English Navy, under the tuition of his relation the late Adm. Roddam Home. When only ten years old, he fell overboard when the ship was under sail, and was miraculously preserved by his efforts, assisted by one of his shipmates, who plunged into the ocean to save him.—On another voyage, the ship in which he served was set on fire by a thunderbolt, and with difficulty saved.

—. At Demerary, Captain Hugh Donaldson, of the Brig Betsey of Ayr, Mr Allan Gray supercargo of said vessel, Robert Wallace mate, and Thomas Wallace,—the three last, the son, brother, and brother-in-law of Captain Thomas Wallace senior, of Newton upon Ayr.

June 5. At Jamaica, of the yellow fever, the Hon. Captain Cathcart, eldest son of Lord Cathcart, and commander of the Clorinde frigate.

7. At the Government House, Tobago, Donald M'Donald of Kinlochmoidart, Esq. Lieutenant Colonel of the 2d battalion Royals.

—. At Antigua, aged 23, after a short illness, Captain R. Fanshaw, of the Carysfort frigate, eldest son of Commissioner Fanshaw of the Dock-yard, Plymouth.

14. In the Island of St Martin's, James Wilson, Esq.

July 4. At Hullerhirst, Ayrshire, in her 18th year, Miss Mary Hamilton Kelso, youngest daughter of the deceast Patrick Kelso of Hullerhirst, Esq.

—. At Berwick, in the prime of life, Miss Cowan mantua-maker.

5. At Lochbuy, in the Isle of Mull, Murdoch Maclaine of Lochbuy, Esq.

—. At Berwick, aged 75, Mrs Margaret Purves, daughter of the late Sir William Purves of Purves Hall, Bart.

6. At Ormidale, Argyleshire, Alexander Campbell of Ormidale, Esq. in the 83d year of his age.

7. At London, General George Ainslie, Colonel of the 13th regiment of foot.

—. At Edinburgh, Mrs Elizabeth Cathcart, relict of John Cathcart, Esq.

—. At Dunfermline, Mr James Anderson, late supervisor of Excise at Greenock.

8. At Greenock, Mrs Elizabeth Conyers, spouse of Captain Archibald Campbell, and daughter of the late Sir Nicolas Conyers, Bart.

June 9. At Bath, suddenly, Clement Boehm, Esq. remarkable for travelling on foot, and unattended, thro' Europe.

—. At Edinburgh, suddenly, of the gout in his stomach, Alexander Menzies of Chesthill, Esq. one of the Principal Clerks of Session.

10. At Auchinlee, Mr James Cleland, only son of Dr William Cleland physician in Paisley.

—. At Paris, aged 74, Francois Ambroise Didot, the celebrated printer.

—. At Rothbury in Northumberland, Sir John Gordon, Bart. of Park, in Banffshire.

11. At ——, Mrs Emilia Husband, relict of Thomas Elder, Esq. of Forneth, late Lord Provost of Edinburgh, and Postmaster General of Scotland.

—. At Aberdeen, in an advanced age, Mr William Corbet, officer of Excise for nearly 50 years.

12. At Newcastle, Mr Gilbert Webster, aged 89, one of the oldest seamen of that port.

—. At Glasgow, Mrs Jean Gaff, relict of Mr John Freeland, merchant.

—. At Anderston, near Glasgow, Mr Thomas Irvine, surgeon.

—. At Garwallfoot, Mr John Nimmo, late farmer in Newholm.

—. At Col. Bayard's house, near New York, aged 52, General Alexander Hamilton, formerly Secretary to General Washington in the American war, a gentleman whose great talents and liberality of mind have rendered his death lamented over the whole American continent.—He fell in a duel with Col. Burr, Vice President of the United States, at Hobock Ferry in Jersey, on the 10th of July.

13. At Stirling, Mrs Urquhart, aged seventy-four.

—. At Gailes, near Irvine, Miss Elizabeth Montgomery, daughter of Robert Montgomery, Esq. merchant there.

—. At Kilmarnock, Mrs Jean Wylie, spouse of Mr William Taylor, manufacturer.

—. At Kilmore, Lorn, Mrs Barbara M'Donell, spouse of the Rev. Patrick M'Donell, minister of Kilmore.

14. At Edinburgh, in her 80th year, Mrs Rachel Auchinleck, relict of Mr Duncan M'Queen, tin-smith.

—. At Edgehill, near Liverpool, George

George Dunbar, Esq. second son of Sir George Dunbar of Mochrum, Bart.

July 14. At Edinburgh, Thomas Hall, youngest son of Sir James Hall, of Dunglass, Bart.

15. At Waterford, of a concussion of the brain, occasioned by a fall from his horse, Capt Henry Charles Lewis, district paymaster.

16. At Irvine, the Rev. Dr James Richmond, minister of that parish.

—. At Aberdeen, Mr Wm. Still, sen. merchant.

—. At Margate, J. P. Oldfield, aged 16, of whose life the following account is, we are assured, not less true than it is extraordinary:—

"At the age of five years and a half he had a scarlet fever, which brought on him a paralysis of the lower extremities, and debilitated his body for the rest of his life; but his mind presented the finest display of human perfection. Whatever he read he instantly had by heart; his favourite pursuits were the mathematics, philosophy, astronomy, geography, history, and painting, in all of which he had made a great proficiency. His favourite authors were Locke and Newton; and his retentive faculties were so strong, that he never forgot a single incident with which he had been once acquainted. He could relate every circumstance of Grecian, Roman, and English history; was master of astronomy, and pursued it up to all its recent discoveries; had a fine taste for drawing and painting, and would frequently take admirable likenesses of persons who struck him from memory. He wrote a hand like copperplate; and at a very early period of his life had made himself master of arithmetic. He was never known to be out of temper; and though he suffered an illness of ten years, which terminated in a dropsy and bursting of a blood vessel upon the lungs, he was never once known to repine or be impatient. His wit was brilliant and refined; and his loss will ever be deplored by those who had the happiness of knowing him."

17. At Kelso, Lieut. George Bruce, formerly Lieut. and surgeon in the Berwickshire Fencible Cavalry, greatly regreted.

—. At London, Peter Holford, Esq. senior master in Chancery.

—. At London, John Spranger, Esq. one of the masters in Chancery.

18. At Glasgow, in an advanced age, Mrs Agnes Sym, relict of Mr William Cuthbertson, brewer there.

July 18. At Aberdeen, Mr Ja. Strachan, Sheriff Substitute of Kincardineshire.

—. At London, of a decline, Mrs Mills, of Covent Garden Theatre.

19. At Edinburgh, after a very short illness, Captain George Macvicar, 44th regt. of foot, Major of Brigade on the Scots Staff, and son of Niel Macvicar, Esq. Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

—. At Dover, Ensign John Hamilton Dundas, of the Royal Staff Corps, second son of John Hamilton Dundas of Duddingston, Esq.

20. At Bonnington Brae, near Leith, Robert Strong, junior, Esq. merchant in Leith.

—. At Dumfries, Mr Joseph Gibson, master of the King's Arms inn there.

21. At Edinburgh, Mr Alexander Kay, accountant.

—. At ditto, Jane Mayne Campbell, eldest daughter of John Campbell, Esq. of Carbrook, writer to the signet.

—. At Burrowmuirhead, near Edinburgh, James Campbell, Esq. of Downie, Commander of the Osnaburgh Revenue cutter.

—. At Glasgow, Mr Alexander Rae, currier.

—. At Crief, Mr John Gardner, merchant in Dundee.

—. At Clifton, aged 70, Mrs M'Cumming, wife of Capt. Bryce M'Cumming.—She was married 44 years, was twice brought to bed at sea, and twice shipwrecked.

22. At Edinburgh, Miss Margaret Janet Macleod, daughter of the late Roderick Macleod of Cadboll, Esq.

23. At Fisherrow, aged 74, Mrs Cay, relict of John Cay, Esq. of North Charlton, Northumberland.

24. At Possil, Robert Crawford, Esq. of Possill.

—. At Avonfield, near Linlithgow, aged 76, Mrs Ann Maxwell, relict of James Black, merchant, Paisley.

—. At Kenleith, Miss Elizabeth Cleghorn, daughter of Mr Robert Cleghorn of Saughton Mills, deceased.

25. At Edinburgh, Mrs Ann Robertson, spouse of Mr John M'Gregor of the Customs, Leith.

—. At Stirling, William M'Killop of Westhaugh, Esq. Keeper of the Register of Sasines for the counties of Stirling and Clackmannan, and Stewarty of Monteath.

July 26. At Hillingdon-Heath, in Berkshire, Sir James Cockburn of Langton, Bart. aged 75.

—. At Edinburgh, Lieut. James M'Duff, late of Ballinloan.

—. At London, Mrs Margaret Elliot, eldest daughter of the late Robert Elliot, Esq. of Middlemiln.

27. At Mid-Calder, Mr John M'Kellar, brewer.

—. At Airdrie-house, Miss B. Aitchison.

—. At Edinburgh, Mr William Young, son of the late Mr John Young, Architect.

—. At London, the Right Hon. Robert Clements, Earl of Leitrim, one of the Irish representative peers in the Imperial Parliament.

—. At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Ogilvie Hamilton, fourth son of the late Dr Alexander Hamilton, physician in Edinburgh.

—. At Edinburgh, Mrs Helen Hamilton, relict of Mr Kid Fothringham, writer in Edinburgh, and daughter of the late Robert Hamilton of Kilbrackmont, Esq.

28. At Edinburgh, in the 12th year of his age, David Richardson, eldest son of William Richardson, Esq.

—. At Edinburgh, aged 83, the Right Hon. James Lord Forbes, Premier Baron of Scotland, and Lieut. Governor of Fortwilliam. He is succeeded by his eldest son Major General James Forbes, of the Coldstream Guards, now Lord Forbes.

—. At Aberdeen, Mrs Helen Simpson, relict of the Rev. Wm. Blake, minister of St James's Chapel, Aberdeen.

—. At Paisley, Mr Andrew Leper, merchant there.

29. At Kensington, Mr William Forsyth, gardener to his Majesty.

—. At London, Col. David Woodburne, of the Bengal Artillery.

30. At Woodside, near Hamilton, Lieut. Peter Bogle, of the Lanarkshire militia.

30. At Bath, Mrs —— Farren, wife of Mr Knight, late of Covent Garden Theatre, and sister of the Countess of Derby.

—. At Bath, Viscountess Kilwarden, relict of Viscount Kilwarden, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench in Ireland, who was murdered by the insurgents in Dublin on the 23d July 1803.

July 31. At Deptford, Mr Sam. Gardner, clerk in the victualling office there.

—. At Cork, James O'Brien, the famous Irish Giant.

Aug 1. At Putney, Major Alexander Thomson, late of the East India Company's service.

—. At Edinburgh, Miss Helen Robertson, third daughter of the late Mr John Robertson, writer in Edinburgh.

—. At Venlaw, Peebleshire, suddenly, Archibald Erskine of Venlaw, Esq. formerly Major of the Edinburgh Volunteers, half brother of the late Rev. Dr John Erskine, and youngest and last surviving son of John Erskine of Carnock, Esq. advocate, author of the Institute of Scots Law.

—. At Walton, near Liverpool, Miss Sinclair, eldest daughter of Robert Sinclair, Esq. Park street, London, formerly of Liverpool.

—. At ——, aged 43, Mrs S. C. Cunningham, wife of Alexander Cunningham, Esq. of Piddletown house in Dorsetshire.

—. At Huntingdon, Mr Sam. Tully, an eminent farmer and breeder of cattle, who has gained the first prize at Smithfield shew for a number of years. His death was occasioned by a violent attack made upon him by a favourite bull belonging to his own stock, which turned upon him, and forced him to the ground with such violence with his head, as to break several of his ribs, and occasion so much other injury, that he survived the accident only two days.

3. At Dublin, the Right Hon. Otway Cuffe, Earl of Desart, one of the Irish representative Peers in the Imperial Parliament.

—. At London, Anketel Singleton, Esq. Lieut.-Governor of Landguard Fort.

—. At London, Miss Louisa Campbell, youngest daughter of the late Duncan Campbell, Esq.

—. At Frescati, near Dublin, Sir Henry Cavendish, Bart. Receiver General of Ireland, a Gentleman whose talents were conspicuous in the Irish Parliament.

4. At Cornhill, of an apoplexy, on his way from London to Edinburgh, the Right Hon. Adam Viscount Duncan, Admiral of the White, justly and universally regretted. His remains were interred in the family burial place at Lundie, in Perthshire, on the 11th current. He is succeeded in title and estate

tate by his son Robert, a Captain in the Ayrshire militia, now in the 19th year of his age.

Aug. 6. At Edinburgh, Miss Agnes Gilchrist, second daughter of the late Mr Archibald Gilchrist haberdasher in Edinburgh.

—. At Wester Coats, near Edinburgh, Lady Elizabeth Cunningham, daughter of the late William Earl of Glencairn.

7. At Paisley, aged 88, Mrs Jean Dunlop relict of Mr William Buchanan.

—. At Eyemouth, aged 74, Mrs Wightman, relict of Mr Charles Wightman, merchant in Anstruther.

—. At ———, Mrs Seton, relict of George Seton of Mounie, Esq.

8. At Hammersmith, Robert M'Farlane, Esq. aged 70; a gentleman well known in the literary world, and sincerely regretted by a numerous circle of friends. In the confusion of carriages returning from the Brentford election, he was rode over, and died in half an hour. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh, and, at an early period of life, arrived in London. He was the first, from an excellent and retentive memory, and strong and persuasive method of composition, that introduced, with great *eclat* at the time, and has continued a most valuable source of information to the public ever since, the Parliamentary debates, as delivered by the different Members in both Houses of Parliament. In this useful and arduous undertaking, no notes being at that time allowed to be taken in either House, he was succeeded by his friend, the late Mr Wm. Woodfall. In the time of Lord North's administration, and the American war, he published his work entitled *The Reign of George the Third*; a most able performance, in four volumes octavo, and several works of considerable merit. Until within a few years back, he kept one of the first seminaries for the education of youth, at Walthamstow, where under his tuition, some of the most able men at the bar, in the army, the navy, and the mercantile world, received instruction, and benefited by his example. For these two years past he was engaged in translating into Latin the Poems of Ossian, now printing by Mr Bulmer; to the original translator from the Gaelic, and editor of those celebrated Poems, he rendered his friend Mr M'Pherson the greatest aid. His last work, of which he only received the first proof a few hours previous to his death, is entitled "An Essay proving the Authenticity of Ossian and his Poems," which, it is to be hoped, will not be lost to the public, as it is understood the manuscript is finished.

Aug. 8. At ——, Miss Dorothea Hamilton, youngest daughter of John Hamilton of Brownhall, Esq.

9. At Mills of Forest, Mrs Elizabeth Forbes, relict of Mr —— Young, Sheriff Clerk of Kincardineshire.

—. At Edinburgh, Mrs Ann Pringle, widow of Dr Baker of Charlestown.

—. At Aberdeen, aged 64, Mr William Simpson clothier.

—. At Glasgow, Mrs Mary Campbell, relict of Mr Andrew Rowand.

—. At Lowestoff, of an apoplexy, aged 83, the Rev. Robert Potter, A. M. prebendary of Norwich, and Vicar of Lowestoffe, the learned translator of the tragedies of Sophocles, Æschylus, and Euripides.

10. At Lauriston, aged 84, Mrs Ann Wake, spouse of Mr Andrew Bell, engraver in Edinburgh.

12. At Leith, Mrs Blackhall, vintner.

13. At Killarmont, near Glasgow, in an advanced age, John Campbell, Esq. of Clathick, formerly merchant in Glasgow.

—. At London, Henry O'Hara, Esq. a gentleman well known in the fashionable world. He was riding down Piccadilly in the evening of the 8th, while an immense crowd from the Brentford election were assembling before Sir Francis Burdett's house, and a gentleman's carriage driving furiously against him, he was so bruised, as to occasion his death.

14. At Edinburgh, aged 69, Mr George Mattocks, joint manager of the Theatre Royal of Edinburgh, and a respectable actor at the London theatres for nearly 40 years.

15. At Shuckburgh-park, Warwickshire, Sir George Shuckburgh Evelyn, Bart. one of the representatives in Parliament for the county of Warwick.

*** *W.* and several pieces of Poetry, are received.

THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

AND

Edinburgh Literary Miscellany,

FOR SEPTEMBER 1804:

With an Engraving of the SCOTS THISTLE, *and a Plan of* FENNELLA'S CASTLE, *in the Mearns.*

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State

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from August 26. to Sept. 25. 1804, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1804, Aug.	Barom.	Thermom. M.	Thermom. N.	Rain. In. Pts.	Weather.
26	30.05	54	67	—	Clear
27	29.8	56	68	—	Ditto
28	29.851	53	66	—	Ditto
29	29.84	57	69	—	Ditto
30	29.6	55	66	—	Ditto
31	29.81	47	64	—	Shower
Sept. 1	29.639	46	63	—	Clear
2	29.75	56	65	—	Cloudy
3	29.9	54	65	0.02	Shower
4	29.95	54	73	—	Clear
5	29.5	60	76	—	Ditto
6	29.71	52	73	—	Cloudy
7	29.68	58	68	—	Clear
8	29.91	49	71	—	Cloudy
9	29.82	43	66	—	Clear
10	29.66	57	69	0.01	Showers
11	29.7	52	68	—	Clear
12	29.71	54	70	—	Cloudy
13	29.501	60	65	0.02	Showers
14	29.67	62	66	0.03	Clear
15	29.84	62	69	0.01	Ditto
16	30.	52	72	—	Clear
17	30.12	54	57	—	Cloudy
18	30.	50	59	—	Clear
19	29.81	53	60	0.15	Rain
20	29.71	50	58	0.01	Showers
21	29.621	48	56	0.02	Ditto
22	29.5	48	52	0.35	Rain
23	29.74	38	55	—	Clear
24	30.	45	57	—	Ditto
25	30.2	45	62	—	Ditto

Quantity of Rain 0.62

High Water at LEITH For OCTOBER 1804.

Days.	Morn. H.	Morn. M.	Even. H.	Even. M.
M. 1.	0	8	0	31
T. 2.	0	52	1	14
W. 3.	1	35	1	57
Th. 4.	2	18	2	40
Fr. 5.	3	2	3	24
Sa. 6.	3	47	4	10
Su. 7.	4	33	4	57
M. 8.	5	22	5	47
T. 9.	6	12	6	37
W. 10.	7	2	7	28
Th. 11.	7	53	8	19
Fr. 12.	8	43	9	8
Sa. 13.	9	32	9	57
Su. 14.	10	21	10	45
M. 15.	11	8	11	32
T. 16.	11	56	—	—
W. 17.	0	21	0	46
Th. 18.	1	11	1	38
Fr. 19.	2	5	2	33
Sa. 20.	3	2	3	32
Su. 21.	4	3	4	35
M. 22.	5	7	5	39
T. 23.	6	12	6	42
W. 24.	7	13	7	40
Th. 25.	8	10	8	37
Fr. 26.	9	3	9	27
Sa. 27.	9	51	10	13
Su. 28.	10	36	10	57
M. 29.	11	19	11	41
T. 30.	—	—	0	2
W. 31.	0	22	0	43

MOON's PHASES,
FOR OCTOBER 1804.

Apparent time at Edinburgh.

	D.	H.	M.	
N. Moon,	3.	5	43	Even.
First Qrtr.	11.	10	5	Even.
Full Moon,	19.	1	4	Morn.
Last Qrtr.	25.	3	57	Even.

OBSERVATIONS.

Oct. 1. Preliminaries of peace with France signed 1801.
25. King George III. accession.
26. George III. proclaimed.

THE

THE ROYAL SCOTCH THISTLE

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